



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS

THE GARDEN HACKLE

Volume 23 Issue 2

February 2023

Page 3. This month's program is a talk about the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition by Greg Shimek.

Page 4. If you have not done it already, it's time to pay your club dues.

Page 13. This month's outing is to Evergreen Beach.

LEADER S LINE

President Lee Yeager



I do not recall what Punxsutawney Phil predicted this year as to whether we are in for more winter or not, but I *do* know that the tulip bulb shoots that are starting to poke their heads above ground in my beds mean that spring is coming. While we have not had as many cold days this winter as in past years, my days of enjoying knocking the ice off of my rod tip while fishing are past. I am looking forward to the spawning of the sea-run cutthroats that populate the South Sound and the joy of spring fishing. Fishing in the Sound should begin to heat up in the coming weeks; then again my wife likes to remind me that in 2019 we had 23 inches of snow in our backyard in the first week of February.

The start of a new fishing season always gets me fired up to finish up the flies I have worked on over the winter and to get out and work on some casting practice. In March and April there are two opportunities to experience excellent fly tying presentations and practice and

lessons with master casting teachers. The Northwest Fly Tying & Fly Fishing Expo will be held at the Linn County Expo Center in Albany, OR on March 10-11. Admission is free if you are a member of the FFI. On April 29 the Washington Council of the FFI is holding a repeat of the fly casting clinic they did last August. This year the event is again at Ballinger Park in Mountlake Terrace WA. Both events are well worth the trip.

At our meeting on February 21 we will vote on the 2023 proposed budget. Our operating budget for expenses such as payments to speakers, PO Box fees, insurance, webpage, and awards are all funded from membership dues. The monies collected and donated for conservation and education projects are used for just those purposes. I write this to emphasize the importance of membership dues. If you have not already sent your 2023 dues please do so, and thank you.

The meeting this month will feature Greg Shimek speaking on the projects of the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition. He will be speaking in person so there will be no Zoom presentation. Come on out to the North Olympia fire station on Boston Harbor Rd. I hope to see you there. Take care and remember fly fishing is the most fun you can have when you are not catching fish.

Lee Yeager



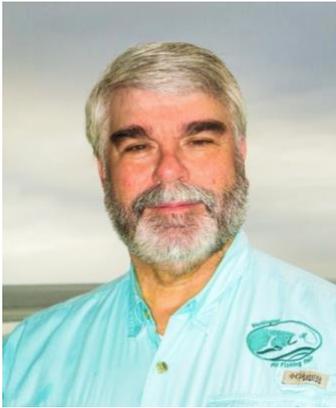
Oakland Bay © Howard Nanto



February 21, 2023
Coastal Cutthroat Coalition

This month Greg Shimek, Executive Director of the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition, will be our speaker at the club meeting. Greg will cover the results of completed research projects, updates on current projects, and introduction of future projects. We will also discuss recent regulation changes and concerns regarding Coastal Cutthroat Trout. Greg always has informative presentations about sea-run cutthroat populations and fishing in Puget Sound.





Treasurer's Report – 2023 Dues are Due!

If you haven't already done so, please pay your 2023 dues as soon as possible. Dues for 2023 are \$40.00 for returning members. There are two convenient ways to pay:

1. You can make your Dues payment by Check. Please mail the check to:

Sound Fly Fishers
PO Box 2792
Olympia, WA 98507

2. You can make your Dues payment using PayPal or a debit/credit card. Please use the link below:

SSFF Returning Member Dues

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=BXHH6MJ3T5MAU

SSFF New Member Dues

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=MZ7K35R8VKERJ

Munn Lake Fish Fund

The South Sound Fly Fishers have partnered with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to stock the Munn Lake with quality sized fish (about 2.5 pounds to the fish) in the spring and in the fall. The fish are raised at the Lakewood Hatchery, and the club provides the funds for purchasing food for these fish.

If you would like to make a donation to help continue the Munn Lake project, please mail your check to: SSFF-Munn Lake Fund, PO Box 2792 Olympia, WA 98507.

A check will avoid credit card and PayPal Fees, but you are certainly welcome to use those methods. Regarding PayPal, there is a button on the top left of the Munn Lake web-page to make a donation via PayPal.

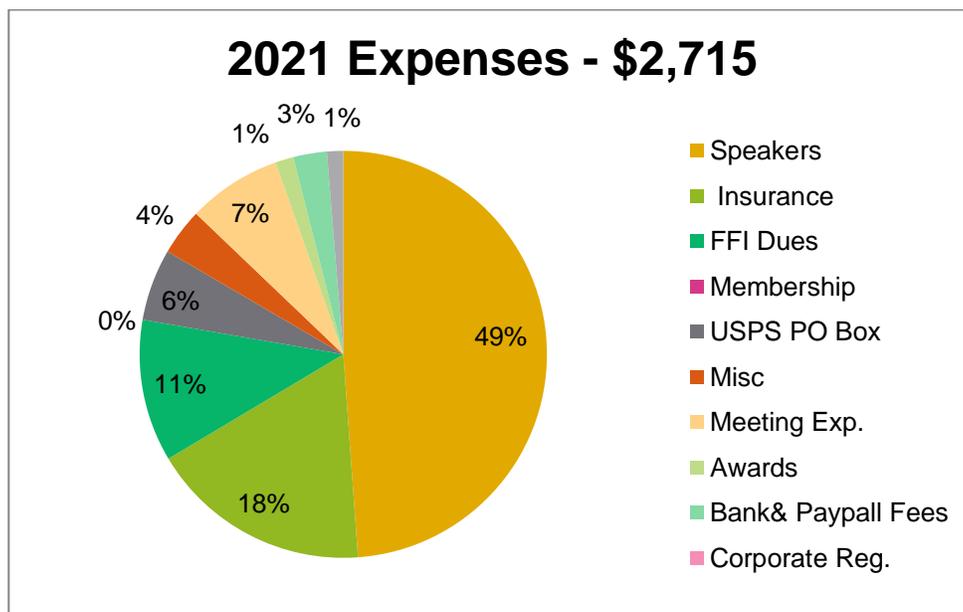
Thank you for supporting this project.

SSFF Expenses

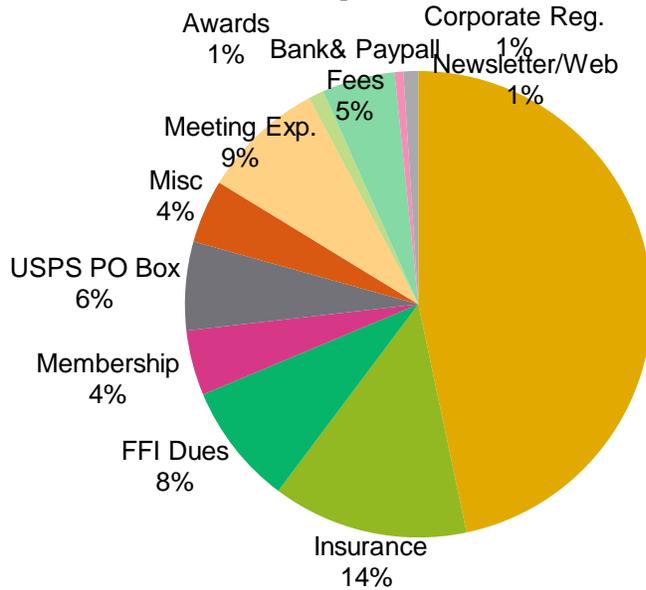
Have you ever wondered what the club dues that you pay each year are used for? The annual dues for club members are \$40. New members pay \$45 to cover the cost of their SSFF name badge. We use club dues for operational expenses. Below are 3 charts that break down what operational expenses are and how much was spent in 2021 and 2022 as well as the projected costs for 2023. This year we will have higher operational expenses associated with conducting the bi-annual club auction.

These costs do not affect the money the club raises and spends for conservation and education projects. Each year the Board of Directors meets and decides how much to give to area programs, such as Project Healing Waters, Casting for Recovery, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (SEG) and others. These groups can change from year to year based on needs and monies available to the club. We also have three dedicated conservation programs: the Munn Lake Project, The Al Harger Fund, and the Coastal Cutthroat Coalition. When people make donations for conservation programs all of those donations are used solely for the purposes for which they are given.

This year in May we are going to have our club auction. This will be the first auction since 2018. The money we raise will be used to support our conservation, education, and club operations. If you have any questions please let me know.

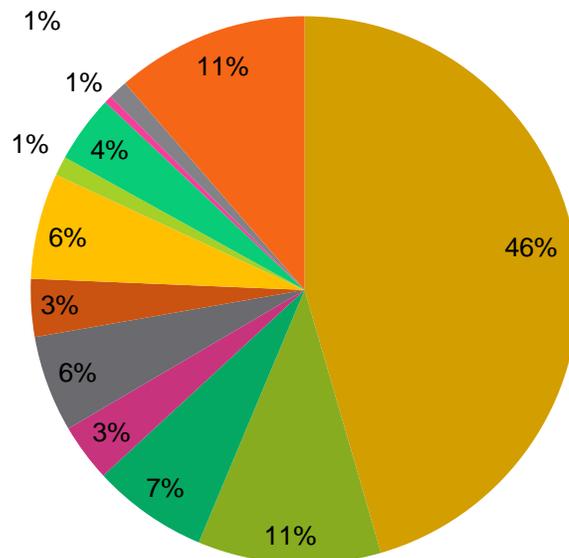


2022 Expenses - \$3,130



2023 Estimated Expenses - \$4,495

- Speakers
- Insurance
- FFI Dues
- Membership
- USPS PO Box
- Misc
- Meeting Exp.
- Awards
- Bank & Payroll Fees
- Corporate Reg.
- Newsletter/Web
- Auction



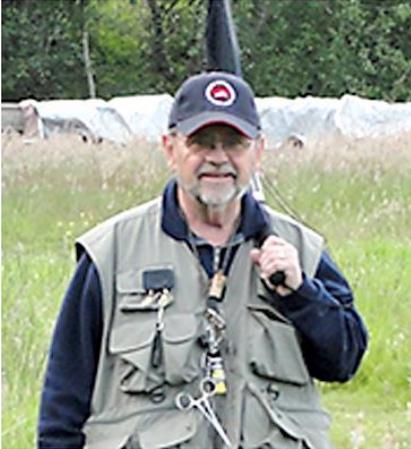
This month we welcome **Murray and Ann Boulware, Brian Blossom, and Andrew Brenna**, David Brenna's son. Membership will catch up with you and write a welcome article with your photos. Meanwhile be sure to attend the upcoming meeting, meet some fellow members, and join us in our outings.



January on Munn Lake © Howard Nanto

Washington State Council FFI Government Affairs

Mike Clancy, Chair



WSCFFI and The Academy

Washington State Council FFI (WSCFFI) - The Washington Council will be conducting a Casting Expo on April 29, 2023 at Lake Ballinger Park north of Seattle in Mountlake Terrace. Come and join in the fun, there is plenty good parking. Certified Casting Instructors will be conducting the casting instruction.

Oregon State Council FFI (OSCFFI) - The Oregon Council is conducting the NW Fly Tyer Expo and Fly Fishing Expo on March 10 and 11, 2023 in Albany, Oregon. This is really a great event. Originally, the event was conducted in Eugene. RV parking is available; contact the Linn County Fairgrounds at 541-926-4314 to reserve a site. Also, the website publishes info on local motels. Cost for RV's is \$30 for power and water, with various costs for different electric hookups. Fun event.

NWYCFFA - The Academy will be conducted for the first time at Panhandle 4H Camp on Panhandle Lake west of Shelton from June 18-24, 2023. Registration is open with all the information on the new website - www.flyfish.academy. The website has all the necessary forms listed. Three new Academy Directors - John Gravendyk, 425-615-0356, Bruce Merighi, 509-679-2274, Carol Anderson, 360-298-2999 and Matt Tuttle, Camp Director, will be conducting The Academy this year. To learn about the Panhandle 4H Camp, go to their website www.Panhandlecamp.com The facilities are incredible.

Editors' note: Mike wanted to pass along a message from Trout Unlimited's Bristol Bay team regarding the EPA's ruling against the Pebble Mine.

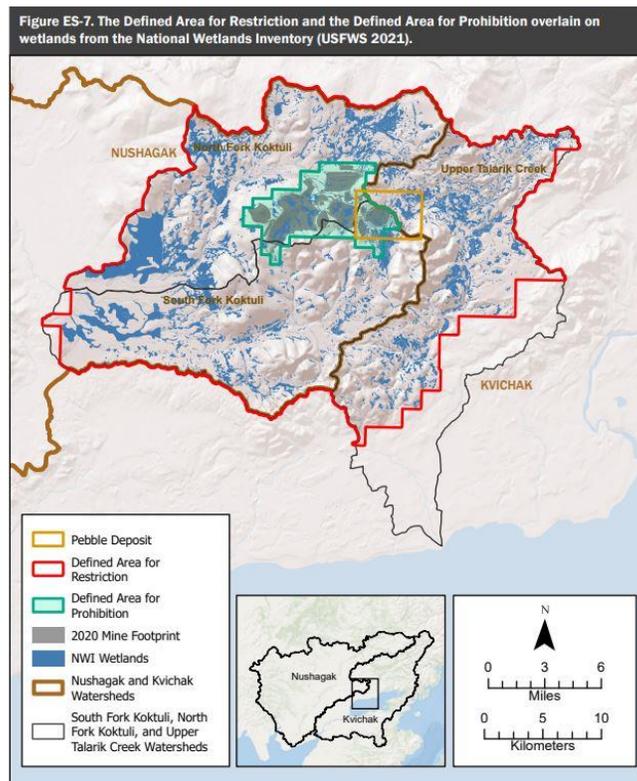


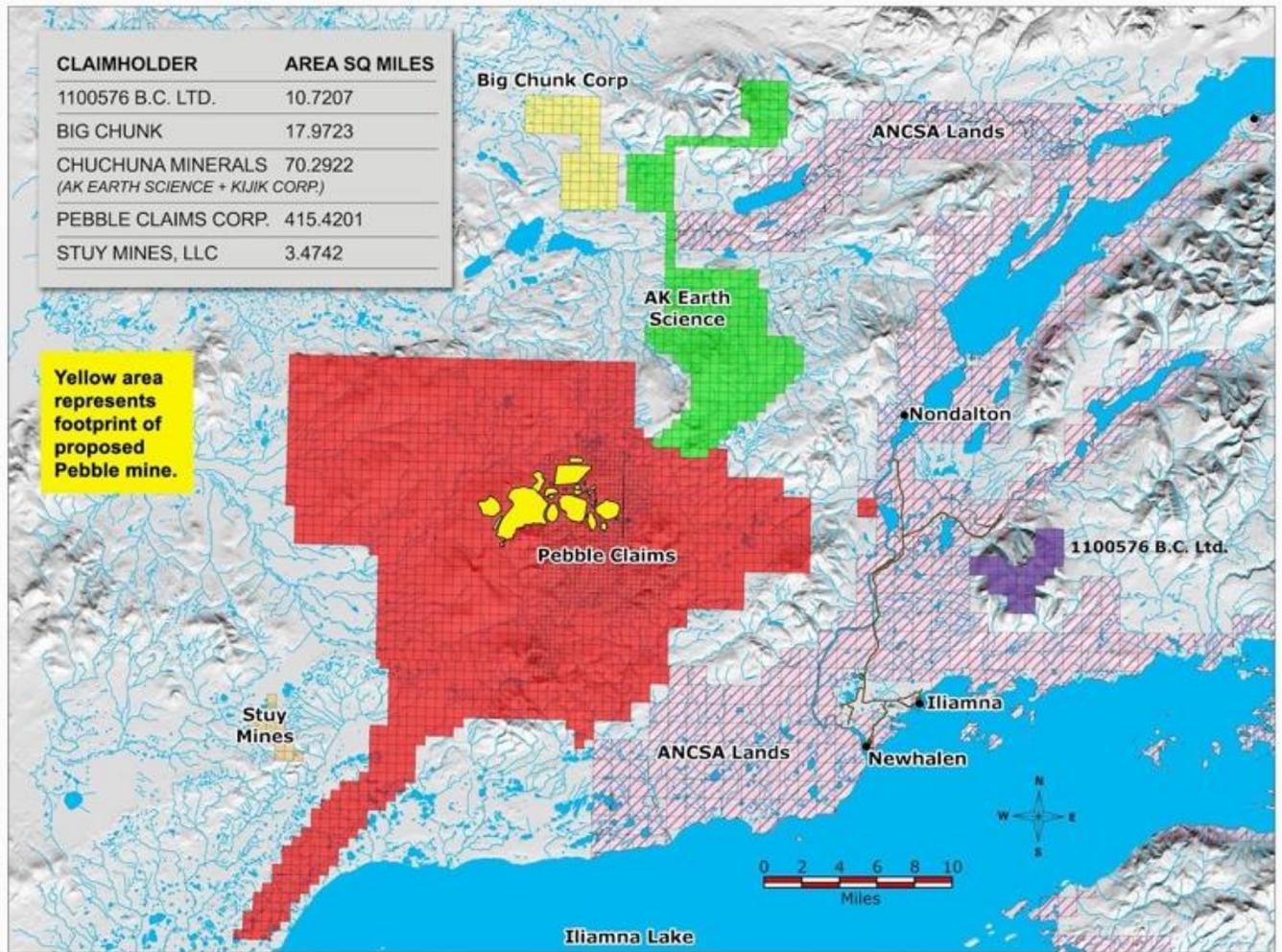
Dear Bristol Bay supporters,

It's been a little over a week since [the EPA finalized Clean Water Act safeguards for Bristol Bay's headwaters](#), and we've been so grateful for the outpouring of excitement for this major milestone in the effort to protect Bristol Bay. Thank you for helping us get here. We wouldn't have these safeguards in place without you speaking up for the Bristol Bay region over many years.

While we celebrate these final Clean Water Act protections, we want to be clear, the majority of the Bristol Bay region remains unprotected. We just achieved another roadblock that makes it difficult, but not impossible, for Pebble or another mining company to return. **Our work is not done until we have watershed-wide safeguards for the Bristol Bay region.**

Take a look at these maps. The safeguards we just secured restrict and prohibit mine waste discharge in the Pebble deposit area (shown red and green, below left). The surrounding areas (shown below, right) remain unprotected and in many instances remain subject to mineral claims, which means there is potential for industrial large-scale development here.





PEBBLEWATCH

www.pebblewatch.com 12/19

The people of the Bristol Bay region have been clear about what they want for their future: it's fish, it's food and water for healthy communities, and it's continuing the way of life as it has been for generations. That means our efforts are focused on securing permanent protections for the entire watershed.

We hope you'll stick with us and stay tuned for what's to come. We only got this far thanks to your support, and we look forward to continuing good work that ensures this salmon and trout powerhouse can continue to thrive.

Sincerely,



Meghan and Trout Unlimited's Save Bristol Bay team



THE SOAPBOX

Today's conservation action items are many. First is volunteering at the FFI casting clinic on April 29, 2023 in Mountlake Terrace. Contact our president, Lee Yeager if interested (you don't need to be an instructor). Join [Conservation Northwest](#) and encourage your state legislatures to fully fund WDFW's Restoring Washington's Biodiversity request.

Join the local chapter of Trout Unlimited (TU) in volunteering for South Sound Green, which is a multi-agency group. They provide watershed education for Thurston County teachers and students. The local TU chapter has been awarded an Embrace-A-Stream grant to expand South Sound Green to 5th graders at three North Thurston elementary schools. You can email for more info at olympiachapterTU@gmail.com or contact Joshua Howen (253-306-2856) or Ron Holtcamp (360-943-8269 or rholtcamp@comcast.net). TU is also looking for volunteers to help with the Northwest Youth Conservation & Fly Fishing Academy (6/18-6/24/23). TU also needs volunteers for their Barrier Assessment program which helps identify fish passage barriers and ultimately resolve the issue.

Today's science item is about the dangers of a limited diet. This can be due to dietary choice in humans (B-12 deficiency and many others) but can be forced on animals, at least sometimes by industrial agriculture. In the case of European hamsters (different breed than pet hamsters) in Northern France, the corn fields have become so large that the hamsters only have access to corn for food. This maize monoculture and consumption leads to niacin (vitamin B-3) deficiency, which is Pellagra in humans. This causes the mother to cannibalize her newborns and leads to other abnormal behaviors.

Chinook Salmon returning to California hatcheries have been feasting on an abnormal amount of anchovies off the California coast. Anchovies contain an enzyme called thiaminase which breaks down thiamin and leads to low levels in the spawning fish. The low level is passed on to hatchlings which suffer problems swimming and they experience high rates of death. This can be reversed with thiamin supplementation in the mother prior to collecting the eggs. Much is still unknown about wild fish, why the anchovy spike, etc.



Education / Community Outreach - by Randy Allen

Learning Opportunities for Club Members

Are you new to fly fishing? Many seek the SSFF to learn to fly fish or to improve their skills. New fly fishers accelerate their learning curves by joining a club and attending qualified classes.

Of course COVID-19 benched your skilled instructors. We'll post more details as we open up following guidance from the Department of Health.

SSFF offers three formal classes.

Introduction to Fly Fishing taught in spring, five weeks, once per week. After this course you'll understand what you gear you'll need like rods, reels, lines, waders and boots, floatation devices for still-water fishing. We cover locating fish in rivers, lakes, and the salt water, and discuss local fish species you'll encounter. We also study the flies you'll use in our section on entomology.

Fly Casting taught spring-early summer, seven weeks, once per week. This class is for single-handed rod casting, not spey rods. Through this course you will cast a fly line for different situations including the wind. You'll also experience how to overcome the effects of moving river water upon your line.

Introduction to Fly Tying taught in the fall - winter, six weeks, once per week. Students tie a new fly each week. As homework students tie that fly at home and bring their work to the next class. The instructor-to-student ratio ensures students receive a lot of individual attention. We teach a variety of flies useful anywhere including nymphs, streamers, and dry flies. After completing the course students' skills can be applied to other flies similar to those taught.

Please contact me with questions; my email is on the last page of the newsletter.

Tight lines!



February 23 & 25 - Evergreen Beach - Sea-run Cutthroat

Tides (Budd Inlet): 2/23 High Tide - 7:49 am 16.3 ft.
2/25 High Tide - 8:55 am 15.4 ft.

According to Chester Allen, this beach fishes well on an outgoing tide. The tides for these days are pretty high and will be in the trees. The beach is not accessible to fish in most places until an hour or two after high tide. So, I suggest folks plan on arriving at 9:00 or 10:00 on the 23rd and 10:00 or 11:00 on the 25th.

I am a total neophyte when it comes to sea-runs so cannot offer any authoritative advice on gear, flies, and techniques. I expect other club members can provide some advice. Folks new to this fishery might want to read Chester Allen's book, "Fly Fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat," Mel Hurd's "Fly Fishing for Searun Cutthroat on Puget Sound" (See the SSFF "Garden Hackle" newsletter to obtain a copy for \$10 donation), or check out various YouTube videos.

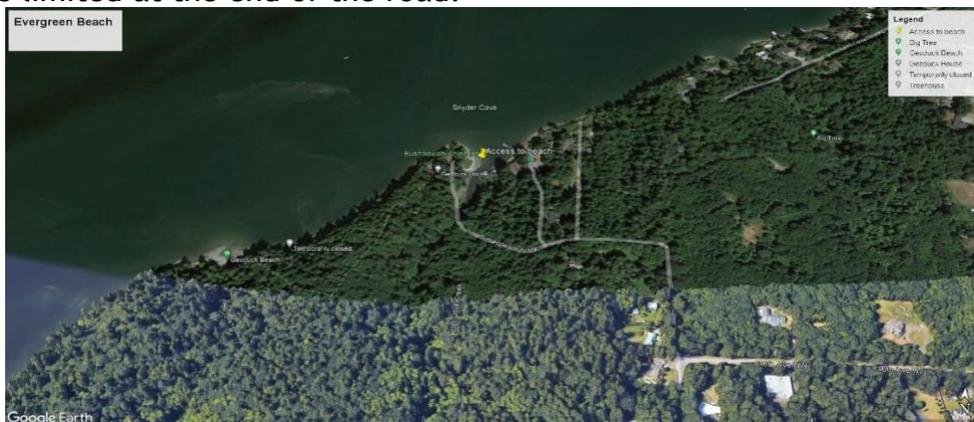
Directions to Evergreen Beach:

Highway 101 to Evergreen Parkway NW

Left on Driftwood Road NW

Right on Overhulse Road NW

Left on Sunset Beach Drive NW to end of road. Might have to park up the hill a bit as parking is limited at the end of the road.



SSFF 2023 OUTINGS

- Feb 23 & 25 Evergreen Beach - Thurston Co.
Sea-run cutthroat trout - Dates may change. Need to check tides for best dates and timing.
- Mar 23 & 25 Munn Lake - Thurston Co.
This is a catch and release only lake. Rainbow and cutthroat trout, bass.
- Apr 20 & 22 Lost Lake - Mason Co.
Rainbow trout.
- May 25 & 27 Summit Lake - Thurston Co.
Rainbow trout.
- Jun 22 & 24 Deep Lake - Thurston Co.
Bluegill, bass, rainbow trout.
- Jul 20 & 22 North Fork Skokomish River - Mason Co.
Rainbow trout.
- Aug 24 & 26 TBD beach for pink and coho salmon. Looking for suggestions for a beach where there is good access to fish and not too many folks tossing buzz bombs. Some candidates include Browns Point, Dash Point, and Point No Point.
- Sep 21 & 23 Deschutes River - Thurston Co.
Rainbow and cutthroat trout.
- Oct 19 & 21 Nahwatzel Lake - Mason Co.
Rainbow trout.
- Nov 16 & 18 Twanoh State Park - Mason Co.
Chum salmon.

Greetings Fly Fishers:

Here is a book on fishing for one of the most iconic fish in Puget Sound:

“FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND”

Mel Hurd, past President and a longtime member of SSFF, is the author of this incredible booklet. Mel originally wrote the booklet in 1993 and revised it in 2006. The 20 page booklet is one of the most informative references for the South Sound area with locations, tactics, etc. This booklet comes highly recommended by many members of our club who have had success by following Mel’s tips.

It is a wonderful booklet, referencing everything you can think of regarding “FLY FISHING FOR SEARUN CUTTHROAT IN SOUTH PUGET SOUND.” It’s very informative and an easy read. Fishing the salt is great in our area, and there are references to areas for easy access for fishing for searuns, plus recommendations on equipment and fishing techniques.

With Mel’s permission SSFF is offering his booklet to interested members and non-members. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$10 which includes shipping via U.S. Mail (U.S. addresses only). All proceeds go into our Conservation donation fund. Some members have donated more than the minimum. For your extra donations *we thank you!*

Either send a check to Jim Maus Treasurer SSFF PO Box 2792, Olympia WA 98507 or use PayPal/credit card/debit card:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=GYWE6RQWY2CF4

As soon as Jim receives your donation he will notify me with your address, and I will get the booklet to you.

If you pay electronically, you will receive your booklet sooner than sending your check to the PO Box.



The club is requesting donations from both club members and donors for the club's fund raiser/auction to be held this May and for our monthly meeting raffles. Donations can be new or used.

In addition, the donation of equipment is also welcome to be used in the club's outreach activities related to fly tying and fly casting.

If you have an item to donate, please contact me - my email is on the last page of the newsletter.





Finished fly by Bob Jacklin © FFI Fly Tying Group Video Library

Muddler Minnow

Materials List:

- Hook: Mustad 9672, TMC 9395, size 2-14
- Thread: Denier 3/0 Olive, Brown or Black
- Tail: Mottled turkey quill
- Rib: Fine gold wire
- Body: Flat gold tinsel
- Underwing: Gray squirrel tail.
- Overwing: Mottled turkey quill.
- Hackle: Olive Grizzly
- Head: Deer hair, spun and clipped

Tying Steps

Step 1: Cut some several quills from both sides of turkey feather and put together. Secure the feather to the hook with a pinch wrap and then run thread up hook shank to cover remainder of feather and to make small body.

Step 2: Tie in gold wire at the head, wrap down to tail, and then wrap back to head.

Step 3: Tie in gold tinsel. Then wrap tinsel down to tail and then back up to the head and tie off.

Step 4: Wrap the gold wire up to the head and tie off.

Step 5: Tie in squirrel tail to make underwing.

Step 6: Tie in the overwing with a pair of secondary turkey wing feathers.

Step 7: Cut out a tuff of deer hair and tie on the side of the hook shank in front of the body. Cut a second tuff and do the same on the other side of hook shank. Cut off the extra hair in front and push back. This will become the collar.

Step 8: Cut off a clump of deer hair and tie in spinning style in front of collar. Cut a tuff of deer hair spinning style at the front. To get deer hair to spin, make three wraps, the first two are tight and the third wrap is tighter and you pull down.

Step 9: Make about a dozen wraps in front of the head and then whip finish.

Step 10: Trim the head.

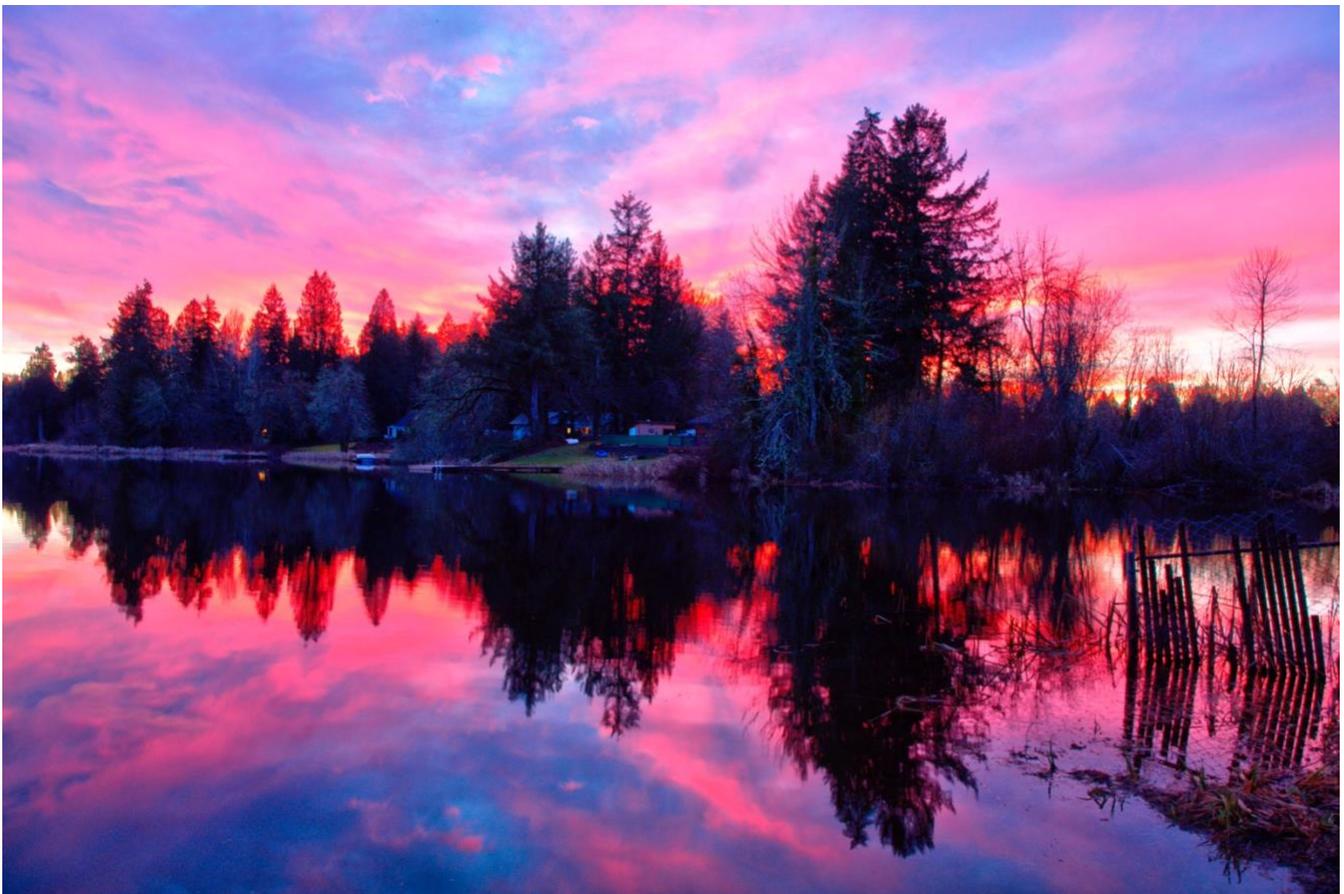
Tying Instructions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c219Olglll8&t=503s>

Classifieds

If you have an item or items that you would like to sell, please send a description, price, and contact information to Bruce Baker (newsletter editor - my email is on the last page of this newsletter).

The classifieds section is a courtesy to club members and all sales are the responsibility of the seller and the buyer. The South Sound Fly Fishers assumes no liability and will not settle disputes.



Munn Lake Sunset © Howard Nanto



SOUTH SOUND FLY FISHERS – 2023 Officers, Directors, Chairs

President: Lee Yeager, yeagerflyfish@gmail.com
Vice President: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Secretary: Rachel Dagovitz, racheldagovitz@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Jim Maus, jimmaus@comcast.net
Director at Large: Todd Parker, tparker2356@gmail.com
Director at Large: Jared Wood, jaredbwood@gmail.com
Past President: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Conservation: Harry Griffith, skionco@aol.com
Education: Randy Allen, randyandcarol2@gmail.com
Fundraising: Kevin Angevine, grcaulder777@gmail.com
Membership: Phil Jaramillo, prjaramillo@comcast.net
Outings Chair: Doug Dunster, ddunster153@gmail.com
Programs: Lee Yeager, yeagerflyfish@gmail.com
Webmaster/Facebook: Vic Andrade, hp8202va@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Bruce Baker, bmbaker09@hotmail.com
FFI/Gov't: Mike Clancy, mtclancy39@comcast.net

Board of Directors Zoom meetings are held the first Tuesday of every month starting at 7:00 pm.

Club Meetings are conducted by Zoom and in-person at 7:00pm the third Tuesday of every month except August and December. Zoom is open at 6:30 if you want to visit and talk fly fishing. In-person meetings are held at the North Olympia Fire Department located at 5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia, WA. 98506.

Directions:

From the north - Use I-5 south exit 105B and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Follow the main road as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

From the south - Use I-5 north exit 105 and stay right toward the port of Olympia. Go right (north) at the round-a-bout, then left at the Plum Street signal. Continue up Plum St. as it changes its name to East Bay Drive and then to Boston Harbor Road. About 4 miles north of the State Ave. signal is a Shell gas station; you'll find the Fire Department just past the Shell on the right side.

If you get lost or can't find the station call Lee at 903-421-4984 or Randy at 360-701-9662.

The meeting announcement and meeting Zoom code are sent to members and friends about a day ahead of the meeting by email. Website: southsoundflyfishers.com.
USPS Mail Address: SSFF, PO BOX 2792, Olympia WA 98507