

Fish First NEWS



March 2011 Issue

Www.fishfirst.org

Member Meeting 7 PM, March 17th,

Speaker: Adam Haspiel, fisheries biologist for Mount St. Helens National Monument in Amboy

Adam Haspiel, fisheries biologist will be speaking on restoration work accomplished and projects planned for the future this March 17 @ 7 PM

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FF Receives Award

On Feb. 17th, at the "State of Clark County" yearly public meeting presented by the County Commissioners, Fish First received an award along with CCA, Clark Skamania Fly Fishers & Vancouver Wildlife for providing volunteer and financial support to keep Parks and Boat Launch Ramps (Happa & Daybreak) open for fisherman. Richard Dyrland attended and accepted the recognition plaque on behalf of Fish First. Some of you may have seen the article on the front page of the Columbian Newspaper. This was a great step forward for FF working within the community ---and we would like to see more volunteers for a number of opportunities waiting to get done.



Auction News

Mark your calendars for the upcoming Fish First auction on May 7th. The Auction will be held at the Vancouver Hilton and the doors open at 5:30 pm. Watch your mail for your opportunity to reserve your auction tickets. If you can't wait for the mail, then you can email your request to bevand-harry@gmail.com.

To be successful, the auction needs lots of items. Please solicit your friends and associates for donations. You can drop off auction items at the Excavator Rental Services in Camas, North Fork Composites, or the Vancouver office of West Coast Bank. To coordinate the drop off or pickup up of items, please call Greg Cobb at 360-225-2215.

So far we have received a couple guns, some art work, lodging at the coast and a duck hunt with Gary Loomis on his private duck pond. Gary has also agreed to provide us with some North Fork Composite rods for the Sponsor raffle.

We look forward to seeing you on May 7th.

Local Resident Helps Fish First

Ridgefield High School remote site incubator (RSI) was in danger of having two wind damaged trees fall on it. The trees also posed a danger to students doing water research pro-

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REMOTE SITE INCUBATOR



Mike Moss
Egg Box Chair

The egg boxes are hatching out and will be leaving in a few weeks. This year, 500,000 eggs were placed on Cedar Creek and 460,000 were placed along the N. Fork Tributaries.

NET PENS

by Dan Balch



The summer Steelhead were released on March 4th and the spring Chinook were pulled from Speelyai on March 12 and placed in the Echo net pens. They'll hang out there for 6 weeks before being turned loose to head to the ocean. This will end the season for FF net pens.

To help out call net Pen Chairman Greg Glass 360-903-0020 or Dan Balch 360-225-7388



Auction Alert: We are looking for volunteers to help with auction. We need people to solicit donations, run raffles, sell tickets, operate computers, as well as set up and take down. If you would like to help us raise money for the fish, please attend our next auction meeting. The auction meetings are held at the Fish First office at 1805 Howard Way in Woodland. Our next meeting will be March 23rd. Since your time is valuable, we promise to start the meeting at 7 o'clock and finish the meeting by 8 o'clock. You can also contact Bev and Harry Bresnahan at:

bevandharry@gmail.com.

Keeping Current

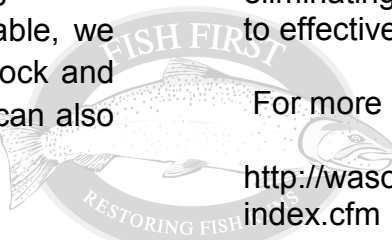
In 1964, Congress began putting aside money from offshore oil and gas drilling revenues to support the protection and conservation of our land and water. The program was named the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), and it has become our country's premier outdoor conservation program – with \$900 million from drilling leases dedicated to the fund each year (though it's been shortchanged during the last few decades).

Some of that money goes to a federal conservation program, and the rest helps individual states develop their outdoor areas – like the numerous natural gems we enjoy here in the Pacific Northwest. Those funds contribute directly to some of our most treasured areas in Southwest Washington, such as improvement of the Julia Butler Hansen National Wildlife Refuge. That scenic area was created by the LWCF, and it protects endangered white tail deer in tiny Wahkiakum County along the Columbia River. Other money has gone to the implementation of Stream & Fish Habitat Restoration in Southwest Washington as well as the Pacific Northwest in general.

The House of Representatives wants to reduce the LWCF's funding by a whopping \$393 million – taking away protection that our precious outdoor areas desperately need. The program already has projects that have yet to be completed, and this funding proposal would barely cover those previous goals – much less future ones. Unfortunately, many of our Congressman, regardless of party affiliation, aren't aware of where this money comes from and assume that by eliminating this budget item, they are helping to effectively reduce the national deficit.

For more info:

<http://waso-lwdf.ncrc.nps.gov/public/index.cfm>



jects near them. Ridgefield High School gave Fish First permission to cut the two damaged trees down. The trees were safely removed by Mike Thornquist, professional tree faller, taxidermist. It is people like Mike and others that volunteer their time and effort that give us a successful organization. Thanks Mike!



GUIDES CORNER

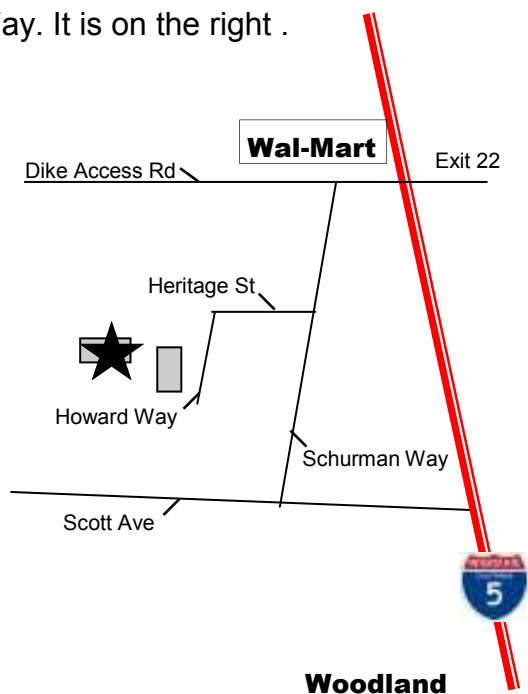
By Jerry A Brown

Feeling a Little Lost?



Fish First has monthly membership meetings which are held the third Thursday of each month. Guest speakers, door prizes and opportunities to find out what is happening at the end of someone else's rod take place here. Join us at 7 PM.

Take exit 22, go west on Dike Access Rd, left on Schurman Way (across from Wal-Mart), right on Heritage, follow around to Howard Way. It is on the right .



Spring Chinook fishing is off to a good start. My first trip on Feb. 27th we got one 22 pounder, the 28th we landed 28 and 35 pounders. There were a few good days at the end of Feb. Then when the snow melted the Oregon side of the river muddied up, the water temperature dropped a couple degrees, and the Columbia went up a couple feet. Time to move up above the Willamette for a while. The fish seem to be biting better from Davis Bar up to the 205 bridge. I have been catching 1 to 3 fish per trip trolling herring down stream in 18 to 30 feet of water, the faster the flow fish shallower 18 to 25 feet, slower the flow fish 25 to 30 feet. Run flashers in the deeper water and no flashers when fishing shallower. Troll as slow as you can get your boat to go and drag your lead on the bottom. When a fish bites leave the rod in the rod holder until the fish is taking line off the reel. Try to use the same size line and leads on all the rods and run them out about the same distance, 40 to 60 feet, this makes it seem like a little school of bait. There seems to be more fish earlier than usual so maybe it will be a larger run than expected. The Columbia closes April 5th this year, then I will move to the Willamette or the Lewis depending on the fishing. The Columbia is at 38 degrees and the Willamette is at 40 degrees. When the Willamette clears up a bit I would suggest fishing below the Willamette as there are more fish to target. Try running the Macks Lure "King Wedding Ring Spinners" with the smile blades above your bait, especially in the colored and deeper water. I still have some good dates open so if you would like to go let me know. I will give a \$10 per head discount to any Fish First members that book a trip. Good luck, be patient and confident and stay safe.

Thanks,
Jerry A Brown,
J B Kingfisher Guide Service

Did You Know...?

Fish First is overhauling the Website! It will be more user friendly, and up to date.



**Newsletter Editor and Board Member
Jerry Brown is Stepping Down**



You're a word wizard if there ever was one. The board is going to miss the unique

ability you have of deciphering the undecipherable, editing submissions and making everyone sound eloquent, and taking notes at membership meetings and nailing the details. The wisdom you brought to the board meetings, the faithfulness of attendance have shown us how much you care about FF.

You've earned the break but, We're going to miss you Jerry Brown!

**FISH FIRST
PO BOX 1505
WOODLAND, WA 98674**

A big hat off to the volunteers who helped out at the 2011 Sportsman's Show. Thank you to: Richard Potenski, Al Fulcer, Jerry A. Brown, Greg Glass, Dennis Harvey, Jerry Sauer, Mike Larocco, Dick Dyrland, Les Greear, Kent Berry, Mark Harris, Paul Hastings, Don Lewis, and Jim Malinowski. As usual, I had a lot of fun hanging out with you guys and am so grateful for your support!

Karen Dodds

