



# The Fishing Line

Olympia Chapter #189 of Trout Unlimited  
(Since 1973)

January 2019

Issue #318

OLYMPIA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED  
January 23, 2019, 7:00PM

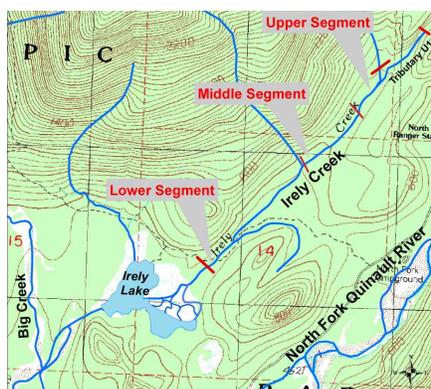
NORTH OLYMPIA (FIRE) STATION #83  
5046 BOSTON HARBOR ROAD NE, OLYMPIA

## CUTTHROAT POPULATION RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS



Irely Lake

photo from R. Vadas



Irely Watershed

USGS Quad



Irely Cr

photo from R Vadas

**Program:** In well-forested Irely Creek within the Olympic National Park, cutthroat trout coexist with anadromous coho salmon. Spawning in Irely Creek, most cutthroat rear to adulthood in downstream Irely Lake. How do environmental factors such as lake dry-outs, reed canary grass invasion, winter-spring snowpack, spring-summer precipitation, peak-spawning temperatures, and coho carcass counts impact the cutthroat populations?

TU members and the public are invited to attend the January meeting of the Olympia Chapter with guest speaker Robert Vadas, Jr. who will share the results of his years of research and how it helps understanding of other sea-run salmonids.

**Bio:** Robert Vadas, Jr., is employed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Habitat Program. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in zoology/botany; a Master of Science degree for in-stream fish ecology; a Ph. D. on fish in-stream flow issues; and taken additional courses offered by the USFWS and USGS. Past work includes projects in Alberta, British Columbia, California, Maryland and Florida. His 'current' work involves much field work (including snorkeling) on spawning and rearing habitat, with follow-up in the laboratory.

In addition to being a member of Trout Unlimited, he has been an active member of the South Sound Estuary Association acting as a scientific advisor and beach-naturalist. Other pass times include music, sports, and - he forewarns those attending - expressing his odd sense of humor.

Contact through WDFW: [Robert.Vadas@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Robert.Vadas@dfw.wa.gov); 360-902-2594.

**There will be a raffle and light refreshments following the program.**

**Are you getting a hard copy by snail-mail of this newsletter? If so, and you have an e-mail address, please help reduce newsletter costs with an electronic version. Send your e-mail address to [rholtcamp@comcast.net](mailto:rholtcamp@comcast.net). Note if you want your Trout Unlimited National address file to include your e-mail. Thank You.**

## TROUT UNLIMITED'S MISSION

To conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Websites:

WCTU (State) [www.troutunlimitedwashington.org](http://www.troutunlimitedwashington.org)

Trout Unlimited (National) <http://www.tu.org>

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/groups/203499953367844?ref=bookmarks>

E-mail [olympiachapterTU@gmail.com](mailto:olympiachapterTU@gmail.com).

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Olympia Chapter #189 of Trout Unlimited

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Olympia, WA 98507-7708

### Chapter Meetings:

The chapter currently holds a meeting, open to all members and the public, the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month (usually) at the North Olympia (Fire) Station 83, 5046 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia, at 7:00pm. There is no December meeting due to holidays.

The chapter currently holds a Board meeting, open to all members, the first Wednesday of each month at North Olympia (Fire) Station 83, 5046 Boston Harbor Rd NE, Olympia. See President's message for changes in March.

### Memberships:

Become a member or renew your membership on-line at [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org). It's the quickest and provides the greatest accuracy of information. No access to the internet? Bring your check to a meeting or mail it to the chapter address.

There are only TU National dues – no extra dues at the State or chapter level. Below are the membership types:

<b>BU</b> (Business) \$295/yr	<b>RE</b> (Regular) \$35/yr
<b>FA</b> (Family) \$55/yr	<b>SE</b> (Stream Explorer) \$12/yr
<b>FL</b> (Family Life) \$1,300	<b>SP</b> (Sponsor) \$100/yr
<b>GC</b> (Griffith Circle) \$1,000	<b>SR</b> (Senior >61yr) \$20/yr
<b>LI</b> (Life) \$1,059	<b>TE</b> (Teen) \$14/yr
<b>MO</b> (Magazine Only)	<b>TR</b> (Trial) 1 <sup>st</sup> yr free

Currently, the Olympia Chapter has 356 members. Welcome new members: Travis Wofford, Centralia; John Akers, Longview; Grayson and Rainier Ottavelli, Olympia; and Dan Elstrom, Tenino.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Pat Prichard

Happy New Year to all.

Always looking for new hands. First welcome to the Board: Sheryl Hicks and Luke Kelly. We appreciate the addition of engaged people to our Board, to share their perspective, experience and give a little of their time. We encourage additional interest in the Board, however, if the Board is not your cup of tea, or you are not quite sure, then perhaps you might find a project that you can become involved with: stream work, Veterans Services, Women's Initiative, Stream Girls, Advocacy, angler science, youth programs, mentoring program.

This month's meeting featured speaker is Robert Vadas, Jr., habitat specialist with WDFW and long-time member of TU. More about his presentation is on the front page.

HEY CENTRALIA, CHEHALIS AND OTHER MEMBERS IN THE CHEHALIS BASIN. The chapter meeting on February 27 will be held in Centralia/Chehalis area. The Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District is proposing to construct a new flood retention facility and temporary reservoir near Pe Ell and levee improvements around the Chehalis-Centralia Airport. We are inviting key members of the planning team and TU members to learn more about the plans. This will be a low key informal discussion.

As a reminder, starting in March, we will discontinue separating the dates for Board and Member meetings and hold them on the same evening, keeping the 4th Wednesday for the joint date. After March we will hold meetings every other month, six times a year. You will also see more changes ahead as we move the meetings to different locations. We will go back to a meeting room occasionally but will more often meet where you can get a bite to eat or enjoy a beverage. We will be making changes to our raffle to be more flexible and shorter to meet the demands of the location.

The Washington Council will reschedule Legislative Day in Olympia - more on this shortly. Stay tuned to the state newsletter for more information. WCTU will be hosting the Trout Unlimited Western Regional Rendezvous, March 14-17. The meeting includes TU members west of the Mississippi. If you are interested in participating in some of the work efforts please let me know (also see article).

Watch your email for information about the T-Shirt contest winner. The Council is making a concerted effort to connect with the grassroots membership (that's you). This starts with a newsletter from the Washington Council giving insight on what's going on around Washington. If you are not getting the newsletter be sure to check your profile at TU.org and ensure your email address is listed. Your email is a cost-effective way of communicating, if you have difficulty access your profile see me or one of the Board

members at the next meeting.

The Northwest Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy will be held again this summer June 23-29. Based at a beautiful camp at Hicks Lake young people participate in lessons about the environment and about the art and craft of fishing. For a week, from wake-up at 5:00AM to lights out at 11:00PM they spend the day in class, on field trips, or fishing with 3+ square meals. A host of volunteer experts take time out of their day to drop-in, contribute their knowledge and expertise making this an invaluable educational experience. The best deal? No child is ever turned away for an inability to pay. **YOU ARE INVITED TO ENCOURAGE A 12-16 YEAR OLD TO ATTEND.**

As always I am available at my email for any questions, concerns, suggestions or raising your hand to volunteer.

### YOU CAN BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER

The Olympia Chapter has numerous activities throughout the year. Take the opportunity to make an impact. Just call the number. If you have an interest in other activities or projects, contact any Board member and discuss it. We are always seeking topics and speakers of interest to our members for the monthly membership meetings. Send suggestions to any Board member.

<b>Ongoing</b>	<u>McLane Cr Stream Monitoring</u> John Hicks, 360-870-0520
<b>Jan 23-27</b>	<u>Washington Sportsmens Show</u> Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259
<b>Jan 26</b>	<u>Woodland Cr Preserve Restoration</u> Kim Malcom, 360-456-8424
<b>Feb 11-15</b>	<u>South Sound GREEN Monitoring</u> Stephanie Bishop
<b>Mar ?</b>	<u>TU Legislative Day</u> Pat Prichard, 360-491-0879
<b>Mar 14-17</b>	<u>Western Regional Rendevous</u> Pat Prichard, 360-491-0879
<b>May 1 start</b>	<u>American Lake Vets Fishing</u> Ron Holtcamp, 360-943-8269
<b>Jun 10-13</b>	<u>Barrier Free Fishing</u> Ron Holtcamp, 360-943-8269
<b>Jun23-29</b>	<u>NWYC&amp;FFA</u> Mike Clancy, 360-753-1259

Our Project Committee may use an electronic "News Flash" approach to notify you of opportunities to participate. E-mailings go to about 2/3 of our members. Those folks all provided emails in their profile with Trout Unlimited. **Don't Miss Out! Update Your Profile!** Go to [tu.org](http://tu.org) and click on MY TU then follow the path to Edit My Profile. If you have questions or are interested in becoming involved in any of our areas of focus let us know.

### PUNCHING MY (RAFFLE) TICKET

by Kim Malcom

I have decided to no longer be your raffle chairman! After 17 years of doing the job it's time to retire! Thank you for all your support & purchasing tickets from me! It has been fun, but time to move aside!

## COHO PSM IN PUGET SOUND STREAMS

by Robert Vadas, Jr.  
(continuing from Nov issue)

What's going on in Puget Sound? The lower segments of most mainland streams around Puget Sound are susceptible to prespawning mortality (PSM) of immigrating adult coho, particularly in the greater Seattle area. This results in dead fish full of eggs (females) or milt (males), which will never make salmonid fry.

Why coho are so vulnerable is still a mystery. They survive worse as adults than (a) young coho and (b) adult chum and Chinook salmon that may even be nearby in such urbanized streams, so adult coho really are more sensitive to toxins. Could their relatively long freshwater rearing (as juveniles) lead to more toxin buildup that carries into adulthood? But why is PSM higher for coho than coastal cutthroat, to cause loss of the former species from many urbanized creeks throughout the Sound?



Coho Prespawn Mortality

photo from Wild Fish Conservancy

Are rubber tires are part of the problem? This is a hypothesis at this point, not proven yet. Notably, rubber leaches whether it's recycled or not. A multiple-speaker seminar by WSU during 2017 was relevant to copper, etc. toxicity found in tire and roofing materials.

Information compels me to believe that coho aren't more sensitive to toxins than other salmonids (e.g., coastal cutthroat), but rather their relative spawning-run timings put adults at different risks for toxin exposure and thus PSM. This follows from the commonly observed hysteresis shown by streams, in which the 1st big storms often carry more sediments, toxins, etc.

PSM doesn't appear to affect co-occurring salmonids (cutthroat, chum, and Chinook), perhaps because only coho immigrate during the early-freshet season. Additionally, the immigration of fall-spawning coho may be at a higher water temperature than for spring-spawning cutthroat, which may further exacerbate coho mortality. Whereas DGR coho immigrate from mid-late September to mid-early November and spawn from mid-late October to mid-December or mid-January, summer/fall Chinook show earlier (mid-September to mid-late October) spawning, such that their immigration should precede intense-rainfall events. In contrast, other Pacific salmonids don't immigrate until November (fall chum), December (winter steelhead),

or January (coastal cutthroat), such that they should avoid the early-rain freshets that especially bring toxins in. First flushes during the winter season definitely put Pacific salmon at a disadvantage to spring spawners like Pacific trout. But the mystery of why coho, rather than co-occurring Chinook and chum salmon, are getting the brunt of the kill in small, urban streams is incompletely understood.

What has been tested is a stormwater filter, which has been shown to keep coho adults alive. Filtration through a mix of soil, bark chips, and gravel was effective as mitigation, so innovative stormwater management is needed here. Hence, the building of a new stormwater facility in the Central Sound could help reduce such PSM in future years, if it can keep up with human-population growth that puts more cars (and their leached pollutants) on the road here.

Permeable pavement can also reduce stormwater toxicity for coho and other aquatic animals. Such pavement allows water flow-through and is strengthened using Boeing's surplus carbon fiber, which had the added benefit of further reducing stormwater toxicity.

### WCTU HOSTS WESTERN REGION RENDEZVOUS

Join TU volunteer leaders from across the West for an enlightening and inspirational experience in the evergreen state **March 14-17, 2019** in the gateway to the Olympic Peninsula along the South Puget Sound in Shelton, Washington.

The TU Western Rendezvous is an occasion to be inspired – by tried and true lessons from volunteer leaders, inspiring conversations with new found friends and a thoughtful agenda in a beautiful place. The event will feature opportunities to discuss the unique issues facing the region as well as a chance to network and build relationships with fellow TU volunteer leaders.



We are excited you will be joining us for inspiration and learning! Don't forget to book your hotel accommodations at the Little Creek Casino and Resort before **February 15** to receive a discounted lodging rate. More details about lodging and the meeting agenda can be found at: <https://www.tu.org/western-regional>

### GREEN FACILITATORS NEEDED

By Stephanie Bishop

Hi everyone!

I crunched the numbers and it looks like we should have 500 students at Congress this year, with more than 300 of

those coming just from South Sound GREEN! Those numbers, coupled with a lot of changes all around, means that I am looking for several shiny new State of the Rivers Facilitators! I have already gotten confirmation from a few new folks, but am still looking for an additional 5-6 people. I think this could be a good way to expand the connections South Sound GREEN has with our partners = win, win!

I was wondering if you might know someone in your storm water department, outreach department, or other that might be interested in this? It would be 4 hour commitment on **March 21st** from roughly 8-12:00. Facilitation skills are appreciated but not necessary, and we will provide a training in early March if anyone is interested. Water quality expertise is not as important as being able to keep the group organized and on time. I attached a position description from last year to give you an idea of what that would look like. This is a great opportunity to connect with youth, become inspired by the next generation, and facilitate an amazing experience.

What is the "State of the Rivers"? State of the Rivers sessions occur in the morning on the day of Congress. Students are broken into watershed groups with no more than 4 students representing between 4-5 monitoring sites. This allows kids from different schools to present their class data to each other and compare and contrast their findings. Each group will present a short presentation (3-5 minutes tops) which could take one of a variety of forms-many students choose Powerpoint presentations, some use trading cards and others simply get up and report their data and results with no visual aids. We understand that teachers and students have varying resources and give them the latitude to choose their own presentation method. After presentations are all delivered, students collectively identify trends and "hot spots" (water quality data that needs improvement in the watershed) and come up with ways they can help improve that data.

### 2019 NWYC&FFA

by Mike Clancy

Applications are now being accepted for the **June 23-29, 2019 Academy**. Up to 20 lucky boys and girls may attend the 2019 Academy at Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The applicant must submit an essay, explaining why "they" would like to attend The Academy and a letter of recommendation is to be submitted by their school counselor or science teacher. Both items may be emailed to me. Enrollment fee is \$300, however; there are sponsorships available. So no applicant will be turned away because of funding. Again we are very fortunate to receive financial support from the fly fishing clubs, the TU chapters, individuals and corporate organizations. The event is sponsored by WCTU and supported by WSCIFFI, SSFF, PSFF & Olympia TU Chapter. The applications can be obtained by contacting me or go to our website and download the forms at [www.nwycffa.com](http://www.nwycffa.com). We have a Facebook page with loads of pictures from past year's Academy's. Just put in NW Youth and it will pop right up. If you have any questions, please contact me @ [nwycffa@comcast.net](mailto:nwycffa@comcast.net). Phone: 253-278-0061. Looking forward to another great year – Mike Clancy, Co-Director & Jim Brosio, Co-Director.