# **CLARK-SKAMANIA FLYFISHERS**

# The BROKEN BARB

January 2024

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#### **Upcoming Dates**

- Jan 2 **Brew Tie**
- Jan 8 **Banquet Reservations Open**
- Jan 8 Fly Tying Class Starts
- Lower Falls Reservations Open
- Jan 15 Board Meeting
- Jan 17 General Membership Meeting
- Jan 26 Campen Creek Tour
- Jan 27 East Fork Outing

# **President's Message**

#### **Jerry Brask**

#### Greetings,

It's a bit daunting to become President of the club. Michael has done a great job over the past two years, dealing with multiple, significant issues. I'll do my best to maintain the high quality of leadership Michael established. I will need and appreciate your help and support. My qualms are eased by the makeup of our Board, which brings talent, thoughtfulness and experience.

Four members are leaving the Board. Phil Gulling, Treasurer, who helped when help was surely needed, is leaving the Board. Lynn Volz is leaving the Board after making important contributions, including casting clinic and Google files cleanup. John Geyer is stepping aside from the Barb, after informing and entertaining us, while sharing great photos. Bart Phillips, filling the Past President slot, is replaced in that role by Michael.

Thanks for being there and helping the club!

Dan Green becomes our new Treasurer. Mike Doukas takes over the ghillie slot from Dan. Jane Traffalis is our new Barb Editor. Cal Schimpf is an "at large" board position and will handle membership/mentoring duties. Jim Lloyd will also be in an "at large" board position. Welcome to our four new board members!

Remaining Board members and positions are listed elsewhere in the Barb. Thanks to Paul, Don, Jack, Dave, Carol, Mark and Michael for their continued service!

Volunteering at CSF helps! Your club gains new ideas and perspectives. As volunteers, we strengthen the club by building community and become more connected to others. We develop new relationships and friendships. We, as volunteers, and the club, all benefit!



Two new board members are also newer club members. Newer club members shared experiences at the December meeting and are leading outings or activities in 2024. Let's keep it going! Please ask a board member, your mentor, other club members or myself about how you can be more involved.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with suggestions, ideas or questions. I hope to see you at meetings, social events or out on the water this year,

Jerry

#### 2024 Officers & Directors

Jerry Brask, President Jerrybrask51@gmail.com

Paul Smith, 1st VP Programs Director psmith1419@gmail.com

Don Kohler, 2nd VP
Outings Director
Moabman07@gmail.com

Jack Glode, Secretary jeg 63@hushmail.com

Dan Green, Treasurer dgreen066@gmail.com

Dave Swank
Conservation Director
Orret20@gmail.com

Mike Doukas, Gillie mdoukas314@gmail.com

Carol Kohler, Director carolkohler98607@gmail.com

Jim Lloyd, Director <u>jlloyddds@gmail.com</u>

Mark Meyer, Director md.meyer@comcast.net

Cal Schimpf, Director calschimpf50@gmail.com

Michael Golob, Past President mpgolob@icloud.com

Jane Traffalis, Broken Barb Editor jane.traffalis@gmail.com

# Clark-Skamania Flyfishers NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Wet Fly Hour @ 5:30 pm

Meeting @ 6:30 pm

Black Pearl on the Columbia

56 S 1st Street, Washougal, WA 98671



January Guest Speaker

Don Kohler

**2024 Outings Preview** 

Clark-Skamania Flyfishers (CSF) is a federally registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated in the State of Washington.

Founded in 1975, Clark-Skamania Flyfishers is dedicated to the preservation of wild fish stocks and the natural resources that sustain them. CSF is further committed to the promotion of fly fishing as a method of angling and, through it, and understanding and appreciation for the diversity of nature.

Broken Barb is a publication of Clark-Skamania Flyfishers, published monthly and free to members.

CSF is a member club of Fly Fishers International.

For further information on Clark-Skamania Flyfishers, visit our website at csfly.net.



### **Conservation Report – January 2024**

Dave Swank

#### **Nutrient Enhancement**

Salmon tossing has gone well this year. According to Jesse, Clark-Skamania Flyfishers has helped the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group place over 5,000 coho salmon carcasses in the upper Lewis River, Cedar Creek, and the East Fork Lewis River. Thanks to all the volunteers who have braved fish slime and blood to help return those marine-derived nutrients to our freshwater rivers!

#### Stump Creek Tree Planting Day

Five intrepid club members joined LCFEG in planting 200 trees and shrubs on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Stump Creek is a small tributary of the Washougal River where LCFEG has anchored large wood structures in the lowest reach, and even a few in the mainstem Washougal near the confluence. The tree planting was to help restore the access roads used by heavy equipment in the restoration process. The planting was relatively easy, as LCFEG used a power auger to dig out the holes, so we just had to pop a tree in the hole and cover it up. Even the rain held off until the last 20 minutes!





#### **Letter of Inquiry from Project Healing Waters**

The club received a Letter of Inquiry from Project Healing Waters asking for \$2,000 to help wounded veterans experience the outdoors. They are working with local guides to provide fishing trips on local waters around Washington and Oregon. The guides are offering free or reduced rates, but there are still costs to running the program. The Grants Committee has asked the applicants to submit a full grant application.



# Fly Tyers .... "BREW TIE" is back Tuesday, January 2 6:00 to 8:00 pm

Ghost Runners Brewery and Kitchen
4216 NE Minnehaha Street, Suite 108
Vancouver, WA 98661

This monthly no-host DIY fly tying with nibbles, brews, and camaraderie is "a must" for CSF tyers.

Come one, come all to tie some flies and drink a couple beers. Non-tyers are welcome.

Bring a towel or other cover for the tables to make it easier to gather your tying waste and to prevent glue spots from reaching tabletops.

Ghost Runners is hidden inside a small industrial park so scout the access in daylight.

Once found, it's easy to locate but first search can be tricky.

It's located between St. Johns and Andresen, set far back on the north side of Minnehaha Street.

Bring your fly tying stuff, non tyers are also welcome.

If anyone would like to tie a fly for the group, let Forrest Koponen know at: 360-772-5081; aobdnr@gmail.com.



# **Rod Building Class**

# — 1 spot still available! —

The CSF rod building class is scheduled! It will begin February 13<sup>th</sup> and will continue every Tuesday and Thursday through March 7th, 6 pm to 8 pm.

Location: Vancouver Fire District's Station 11, 9606 NE 130th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98682.

The class is limited to 8 participants this year, and 7 spots are already filled so if you want to participate, jump on it now!

Contact Richard Bowers to get a spot and identify what you want to build. <a href="mailto:bowersrichard@msn.com">bowersrichard@msn.com</a>







### **CSF Beginning Fly Tying Class**

The CSF Beginner Fly Tying Class starts **Monday**, **January 8**<sup>th</sup>. It will run 5 successive Monday evenings starting January 8, 2024. **7-9 pm.** 

Location: Vancouver Fire Station #11: 9606 NE 130<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, Washington 98682.

The class is full with 12 signed up. We will keep a wait list in case of cancellations.

Cost is \$50.00. Jerry Brask is coordinating the class. Send Jerry an email with questions or to register for the class at <a href="mailto:jerrybrask51@gmail.com">jerrybrask51@gmail.com</a>.

# **Net Building Class Update**

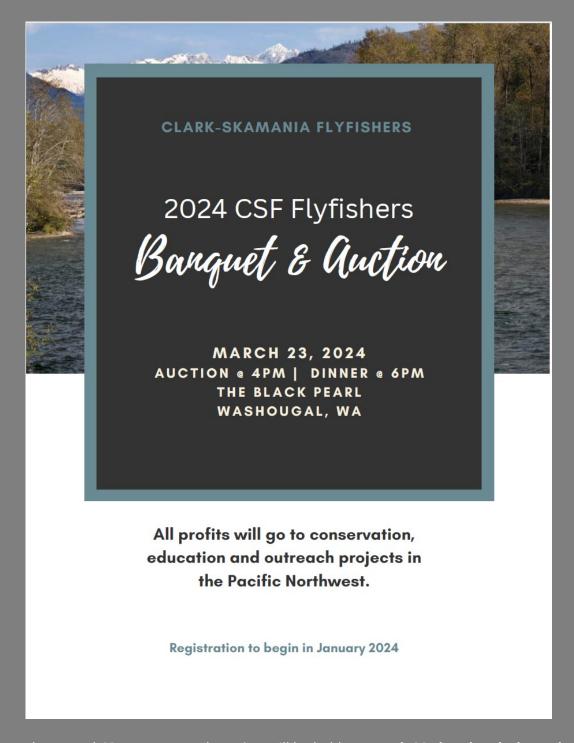
The net building class is going well with 7 students. We have had 3 classes so far with one more to go. The nets are all bent and glued up with the first round of sanding and they look great. Al Wood has graciously hosted the class again this year in his well outfitted shop and Forrest Koponen and Don Kohler are helping the new instructor, Lee Dockstader with the class. This year Lee provided some new larger net forms for boat nets with a circumference of about 60 inches and a length of 54". Lee has a computer controlled router (CNC machine) in his home woodshop and also provided precut handles out of maple and walnut. Lee reported there have been a few hiccups but nothing that couldn't be fixed with some super glue and/or epoxy.











The annual CSF Banquet and Auction will be held on March 23rd at the Black Pearl.

Online registration opens January 8th, 2024 and payment will be by credit card only. You will be able to purchase raffle tickets online, to be included in your packet at sign-in.

If anyone needs assistance with registering online, Debbie Crockett and Diane Schmitt will be in attendance at both the January and February general meetings to help.

#### **DONATIONS**

You've got 'em, we need them! We are looking for new or nearly new items, fly fishing related or of interest to non-fishers. Please bring your items to a general meeting or a fly-tying evening if possible. We will announce drop-off dates in January if you can't make it to a meeting. The deadline for donations is March 10th.

## East Fork of the Lewis Update (courtesy of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership)

The Lower East Fork Lewis River Floodplain Reclamation Project has a new name — **East Fork Lewis River Reconnection Project**, signifying the combined benefits of reconnecting rivers to their floodplains and reconnecting people with nature.

The East Fork Lewis River Reconnection Project will be the largest restoration project to ever occur on the river. It will fix legacy mining issues, reduce erosion risk to homes and businesses, protect county property, and help salmonids and other wildlife.



Here is a list of key project updates, as of December 13:

- Last month, the Estuary Partnership and its engineering partners at Inter-Fluve finalized the 60% design package for the restoration project. The 60% design package includes engineering drawings, a construction cost estimate, and materials specifications. The 90% design package will be completed in the spring. The design package was sent to the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Department of Ecology (Ecology).
- Along with the 60% design report, the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA) was submitted
  to the Corps and Ecology. The JARPA application also included a variety of other information related to wetlands, including the Wetland Delineation Report
- This month, the Estuary Partnership will submit a Hydraulic Project Approval permit to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- The Estuary Partnership is submitting additional information to the Corps Sediment Evaluation Team that reflects the updated project designs and additional soils testing.
- The Cultural Assessment was submitted to the Corps. The Corps will submit it to the Washington Department of Archelogy and Historic Preservation, as part of the funding agreement with the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office.
- The Estuary Partnership hired a construction management firm, Consor. The team at Consor is reviewing the 60% design package and will produce an independent cost estimate for the project. Consor is also reviewing important logistics such as site access needs for heavy equipment, staging, and construction sequencing.

### Campen Creek Reconnection Project Tour, Washougal—Jan. 26

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership is developing a floodplain reconnection project that will restore a 2,000 foot portion of Campen Creek within Washoughal's Mable Kerr Park. Campen Creek is a tributary to Gibbons Creek, which flows through the Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge and into the Columbia River. (The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership, US Fish and Wildlife, and the Port of Camas-Washougal completed the Steigerwald Reconnection Project in 2022, the largest habitat restoration project in the history of the lower Columbia River.)

The Estuary Partnership will be leading a tour of the project area and CSF members are invited to join the tour. The tour will be on January 26, 2024, from 10-11:30 a.m. The group will start at the City of Washougalowned Mable Kerr Park and cover the highlights of our Campen Creek Reconnection Project. Next, they'll head up to Washougal High School to provide details about an upcoming large-scale stormwater infrastructure project to reduce pollution flowing into Campen Creek.

For more information on the project, check out this newspaper article: <a href="https://www.camaspostrecord.com/news/2023/sep/28/environmental-group-eyes-campen-creek-restoration/">https://www.camaspostrecord.com/news/2023/sep/28/environmental-group-eyes-campen-creek-restoration/</a>

# Clark-Skamania Flyfishers 2024 Outings

Page 1 of 2 (January— June)

January 27 or February 3	East Fork Lewis River - Washington Fishmaster: Mike Carroll,(360) 953-3310, mudler. mike@gmail.com Day trip, Wade or Float, Steelhead
February 17	Sandy River - Oregon - alternate Kalama River Fishmaster: Ron Karsten, (503) 701-1010, ronkarsten@comcast.net Assistant: Todd Gehrardt, (503) 793-9022, toddgerhardt1315@gmail.com Day trip, Wade or Float, Steelhead
April 5 - 7	Lenice Lake - Washington Fishmaster: Dan Green, (360) 907-0032, dgreen066@gmail.com Fishmaster: Jerry Brask, (503) 502-4283, jerrybrask51@gmail.com Overnight, Float, Trout
April 12 - 14	Yakima River - Big Pines Recreaction site- Washington Fishmaster: Steve Jones, (360) 606-5947, sjones022@comcast.com Overnight, Wade or Float, Steelhead, Trout
April 30-May 3	Eastside Lakes - Washington Fishmaster: Larry Pipes, (360) 880-5875, larry.pipes@gmail.com Assistant Jack Glode (307) 630-9612, jeg_63@hushmail.com Overnight, Wade or Float, Trout
May 18	Kalama River – Washington Fishmaster: Mike Carroll, (360) 953-3310, mudler.mike@gmail.com Day trip, Wade or Float, Steelhead, Trout
June 5	Laurance Lake - Oregon Fishmaster: Jerry Brask, (503) 502-4283, jerrybrask51@gmail.com Assistant Peter Anderson, (360) 606-5947, pavanderson321@gmail.com Day trip, Float, Trout
June 7 - 9	Deschutes River, Harpham Flat BLM Campground Maupin, Oregon Fishmaster: Todd Gerhardt, (503) 793-9022, toddgerhardt1315@gmail.com Assistant Bob Harrison, (360) 798-6220 bobnjeana@yahoo.com Float, walk and wade, trout
June 21 - 23	Coldwater Lake – Washington Fishmaster: Julie & Frank Berge, (360) 798-6757, swatberge@gmail.com Assistant Larry Morris, (360) 253-1646, lcmorris 1250@gmail.com Day trip, Float, Trout

# Clark-Skamania Flyfishers 2024 Outings

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Page 2 of 2 (July—November)

July 12 - 14	Upper Lewis River – Washington Fishmasters: Don & Carol Kohler, (503) 891-5486, moabman07@gmail.com Overnight, Wade, Trout
July 18 - 20	Crooked River-Oregon Fishmaster: Bob Shimane, (408) 314-0645, andylily99@gmail.com Overnight, Wade, Trout
August 3	John Day River - Cottonwood Canyon State Park - Oregon Fishmaster: Mark Meyer, (360) 253-7273, md.meyer@comcast.net Day trip, Wade, Bass
September 6 - 8	Cowlitz River - Washington Fishmaster: Al Wood & Diane Schmitt, (360) 904-7797 alanstanleywood@gmail.com Overnight, Float or Wade, Steelhead, Trout
September 11	Laurance Lake - Oregon Fishmaster: Cal Schimpf, (360) 702-5235 calschimph50@gmail.com Day trip, float, trout
October 4 - 6	Klickitat River – Washington Fishmasters: Don & Sherri Starkin, (509) 637-4405, dstarkin@msn.com Overnight, Wade or Float, Trout and Steelhead
October 12	Merrill Lake Fish-in – WA (In conjunction with WDFW) Fishmaster: Marvin Yoshinaka, (541) 728-7496, marvyosh@gmail.com Fishmaster: Jim Hutchison, (360) 837-8011, wilandhutch@gmail.com Fishmaster: Warren Bieker, (360) 687-5475, ljbieker@comcast.net Day trip, Wade or Float, Trout
November 9	Kilchis River-Oregon (Tillamook) Fishmaster: Dennis Hite, (503) 849-5649, dhite1@yahoo.com Day trip, Float or Wade, Chum Salmon

# Reservation Instructions for Lower Falls Outing (July 12-14) RESERVE YOUR CAMPSITE on January 9!

Reservations for Lower Falls can be made six months in advance. This means to reserve a site in July you can do so in January. We have found that to get the site you want, you need to reserve as soon as reservations open. Recreation.gov does not take reservations for this campground until January 9. This is the earliest date that reservations can be made.

#### Recreation.gov opens at 7 AM our time January 9 so be ready.

To reserve a site for Friday July 12 you can't do so until January 12

Many club members will arrive early in the week prior to the outing. If you want to come on Wednesday, July 10, make your reservation on January 10.

# How to reserve a site at Lower Falls Campground

To make reservations follow these steps.

- Go directly to <a href="https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/250032">https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/250032</a>. This will open the Availability Grid.
- 2. Forward calendar to July
- Look on map for site you wish to reserve. Most CSF members will camp on the Lower Loop.
- 4. Click dates you wish to reserve on the grid for that site
- 5. Reserve those dates. You can apply your senior pass at this time.

Reservations can be cancelled later for a small fee or pass the reservation on to a fellow club member.



any questions? contact Don Kohler at 503-891-5486

### **East Fork Lewis River Outing**

January 27 or February 3, 2024

Fish master: Mike Carroll mudler.mike@gmail.com 360-953-3310

Outing: East Fork of the Lewis River

Date: Saturday January 27 or February 3, 2024; 8:00 AM

Location: Daybreak Park, East Park, at 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave. and NE 264<sup>th</sup> St.

- Traveling north or south on I-5 take Battle Ground exit to 219<sup>th</sup> St. and follow east to 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. at Dollars Corners.
- Turn left on 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave. (north) to Daybreak Bridge, approximately 2.5 miles. Enter the park on the east side of 82<sup>nd</sup> Ave.

**Organization**: Coffee and donuts as well as maps of the river will be available for participants that arrive that day. The meeting will focus on safety, fishing opportunities, gear and wade float access. We will be looking for volunteers that know the river and have fished the river to group up with fishermen that are new to the river.

**Wade/Float**: This river can be floated or waded. If floating it will be your responsibility to find a shuttler from Lewisville Park to Daybreak Park. However, some of our group would probably be willing to shuttle. Outing attendees will be responsible for coordinating their own shuttle/transportation.

**Fishery**: The East Fork is a local water and one of the fourteen wild steelhead gene bank rivers in the state. All steelhead/salmon captured must be released. Hooks must be barbless and live bait or scents are prohibited.

**Sporting Opportunity**: Fish usually start showing in December with overlapping of summer run fish. Returns are small but mostly wild winter runs. Wild winter abundance peaks in February and fishing opportunities continue through March and into April.

**Methods**: Productive methods include dead-drifting or swinging streamers, muddlers or beads (not really fly fishing.) These are methods that are benefited from supplemental weight or sink tips to achieve a deep presentation. No matter the method, stout leaders should be used.

**Tactics**: Weather and water conditions as well as fishing pressure can induce fish to be selective in this fishery. Some ideas to consider at these times are: 1) stay persistent and optimistic, and 2) carefully fishing one section at a time. Slowing down your presentation is imperative. Steelhead this time of year are more lethargic and slow moving. Work the same water over if you feel there should be fish in a certain location. It's not uncommon for the East Fork to reward you on your third pass down the same section.

**Gear**: Nymphing and swinging with a 5-7 weight single hand is common or swinging a two handed 6-7 weight rod (10-13.5') is also common.

**Dress**: Dress in layers for warmth and have a post-immersion plan: dry clothes as back up. It's always prudent to wear a PDF, both wading and water crafting.

**Regulations**: Check the current 2023—2024 regulations and or WDFW website for current information.

Questions? Contact Mike Carroll at (360)953-3310

SHOULD THE WEATHER OR RIVER BE UNFISHABLE ON JANUARY 27, THE EVENT WILL MOVED TO THE FOLLOWING SATURDAY — FEBRUARY 3, 2024.

# **Sandy River Outing**

CSF Flyfishers will be hosting an outing on the Sandy River on February 17th.

Todd Gearhardt and Ron Karsten will be the club fishmasters who will be hosting this event.

Plan on arriving at the put in beach located in Oxbow Park between 8:00 and 9:00 on February 17th, 2024.

There will be hot coffee and donuts provided to get things started off right. River maps and information about river flow will be provided at our launch point on the day of the outing.

We will be coordinating a shuttle team to help with moving vehicles and trailers to the takeout beach down river at Dabney Park. Your assistance is requested to help with planning and scheduling for our support volunteers. If you will require help with a shuttle, please provide your contact information to <a href="mailto:ron-karsten@comcast.net">ron-karsten@comcast.net</a> to help things go smoothly.



#### **New Members**

#### **Greetings & Welcome to December's New Members!**

New members continue to discover CSF for access to education, recreation, and conservation activities, on and off the water.

It is with pleasure that we welcome:

# Tracy Hokanson | Portland Jarod Norton | Camas

### In Memory

#### **Robert Richie**

Former CSF club member Robert Richie passed away on December 12, 2023 in Camas, Washington.

Robert had been an active member of the club and had served as Fishmaster on many outings.

Robert also served as a police officer in Washougal and then operated a driver training school.



## **CSF Meeting Menu**

Would you like to help expand our menu at CSF meetings? Since we have been at the Black Pearl we have had pizza and beverages available for purchase at our club meetings. This has been popular and makes for an easy dinner for those attending. If you attended the November meeting, you were treated to a serving of the Starkin's excellent lasagna and garlic bread. It was a welcome addition to our usual pizza and sold out quickly.

Dennis & Tamira Hite have suggested that we expand our pizza offering to include another item. Tamira Hite has offered to lead it off and will prepare baked ziti with artisan bread for the January meeting. This will be in conjunction with our usual array of pizza and non-alcoholic beverages. I am looking for other members, one each month, who would be willing to prepare a one-dish meal to have for our meetings. We don't want to serve soup or chili in case they spill, i.e., messy and hard to clean up. Other menu ideas to consider might be lasagna, spaghetti, macaroni and cheese, or enchiladas. It is up to you though.

We are not able to do any cooking at the Black Pearl. All food must be prepared off site. We do have warming ovens available to keep the food warm until serving time. CSF will reimburse you for the cost of your ingredients with a copy of your receipts. All proceeds after costs from food and drink sold go into the general fund to help with our operating expenses.

Please contact Carol Kohler at (360) 600-6590 or carolkohler98607@gmail.com if you are interested in contributing a one-dish meal. As a reminder, we do not have monthly meetings in March, July or August.

#### **Book Release ...**

#### Flies For Atlantic Salmon & Steelhead

Famous steelhead expert and author, Trey Combs just released a new book: *Flies for Atlantic Salmon & Steelhead*. It is published by Tom Pero at Wild River press, and sells for \$150.00.

On page 314, there is a photo and some good text about Bill Koran, an ex-CSF president. Bill was a Portland environmental engineer, now retired. At the time he was president, about 20 years ago, he had two small children. His daughter is now a spey casting champion and Bill is a well-known Clearwater River spey-guy and fisherman.



**PO Box 644** Vancouver, WA 98666

csfly.net/ become-a-member

Thank you!

#### **CSF 2023 AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

It's time for the 2024 nominations for awards which will be presented at the Fisherman's Folly banquet and auction in March 2024. Please consider nominating a fellow club member for one of the following awards.

Nominations should be received by the February 2024 general membership meeting. Please help in recognizing members (or organizations) who have made a significant contribution to the club in the following categories.

<b>Flyfisher of the year</b> – presented to the member who exemplifies the club's overall goals of conservation, education, etiquette, participation, and service.
Nominee:
Justification:
Conservationist of the year – presented to a member for exemplary service in protecting and conserving native resources.
Nominee:
Justification
Stream Guardian — presented to a member, non-member or group that has made significant difference locally to protect and preserve water quality and wild fish resources.
Nominee:
Justification
Special Achievement Award
Nominee:
Justification
<b>Denny Way CSF Ambassador Award</b> – This award is presented to members who exemplify the friendly welcoming attitude to vis tors, new members, and new fishers the way Denny Way did.
Nominee:
Justification

Nominations can be given to any board member at a meeting or mailed to CSF, PO Box 644, Vancouver, WA 98666. Envelopes should be marked for the attention of the Awards Committee.