



BREMERTON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER  
**DECEMBER 2021 EDITION**

# THE SPORTSMAN

*The Oldest Sportsmen's Club in Washington State!*

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**President:** Ron Flerx **Vice President:** Ed Sterling **Secretary:** Arvilla Ohlde  
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Ron Qualman (elected 2019), Bob Overly (elected 2019) **Membership Chairman:** Cele Sterling  
**Newsletter Editor:** Cheyanne Flerx

## President's Message

As I sit here thinking about what to write for this Presidents message, I'm reflecting on our August picnic and the quality time we all enjoyed visiting, catching up, and enjoying being together as a club. Who would have thought how lucky we were to have that window of opportunity? When will our next opportunity for having an in-person meeting be? Honestly, I'm not sure?

I hope everyone had a nice Thanksgiving. Carmen and I had a quiet but enjoyable Thanksgiving, with me having the duty of smoking the turkey on the Traeger grill. We are now putting together our Christmas plans; for sure, there will be Ham or Prime Rib on the Traeger.

So, you may be wondering what your club is doing? As your President, I'm obligated to ensure we are operating as directed our By-Laws, and we are, for the most part, with the exception, the pandemic causing disruptions for our meeting schedule. I'm in continual communications with our Officers and Board of Trustees. All our financial accounts are current, and the checkbook is balanced. Our property taxes are paid in full for 2021, and our reporting and filling with Washington's Secretary of State (SOS) is current. Our membership numbers are at approximately 60 for 2021, and I hope each of you will renew your membership in 2022. Mail your membership renewal to our post office box at P.O. Box 522 Bremerton, WA 98337. You can also renew on our website at [www.bremertonsportsmensclub.org](http://www.bremertonsportsmensclub.org). For questions about membership, please get in touch with Cele Sterling.

I've been pondering ideas for club activities in 2022. One idea, maybe we should visit our property, do a clean-up, or perhaps have a mid-day club meeting. We should plan additional public access site clean-ups. Let's have a lake fishing outing for members and guests. Let's start building some duck boxes and find suitable sites for them. Let's have a garage sale. These are activities to consider; I welcome your input, thoughts, and additional suggestions.

In closing, thank you for your understanding, patience, and dedication during these uncertain and trying times we are experiencing. I wish each of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Until we have the opportunity to meet again, stay safe, get outdoors and play.

**Ron Flerx**

President – BSC

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## Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

# State, tribal co-managers announce conservation-minded approach to coastal steelhead season amid expectations of lowest on-record returns

### Date

Nov 30, 2021

### Contact

James Losee, 360-249-1201

Media Contact: Eryn Couch, 360-890-6604

**Seasons include full closures of tribal and sport steelhead fisheries on Chehalis and Humptulips rivers Dec. 1 to April 30 and restricted fisheries in other coastal rivers**

OLYMPIA – Amid forecasts for low returns, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and tribal co-managers at the Hoh Tribe, Quileute Tribe, and Quinault Indian Nation, today announced restrictions to sport and tribal fishing on Washington coastal rivers. These measures are aimed to protect wild steelhead populations, provide sport fishing opportunity where possible, and support tribal treaty rights.

In effect from Dec. 1, 2021 through April 30, 2022, state-managed steelhead sport fisheries will close in the Quinault and Queets rivers and their tributaries. During this time, both tribal and state fisheries will close in the Chehalis River and its tributaries as well as the Humptulips River. Steelhead fishing in

Willapa Bay rivers and the Quillayute and Hoh rivers will allow catch and release of unmarked steelhead and harvest of two hatchery steelhead. Fishing from a boat will not be permitted except on the mainstem of the Quillayute River below Highway 101 bridges on the Calawah and Bogachiel rivers.

"Grounded in a commitment to cooperative management, this joint approach unfolds under the stark reality of these dwindling coastal runs," said Kelly Cunningham, WDFW fish program director. "We continue to share the same concern for recovering these wild fish as well as preserving a deep-rooted angling heritage that we've heard echoed in public feedback throughout this pre-season planning process. We applaud tribal co-managers in their work to champion these recovery efforts."

"Fish and fishing are central to our culture and way of life, providing food, income, and recreation," said Ed Johnstone, fisheries policy spokesperson for the Quinault Indian Nation. "It's hard to restrict fisheries, but it has to be done. We have a shared responsibility to make tough decisions as stewards for the resource and to work together as co-managers to find the will and the means necessary to protect fish for future generations."

Final fishing regulations for sport fisheries follow an extensive public engagement process, which included a four-part virtual town hall series during summer and fall 2021 and several WDFW staff updates to the Fish and Wildlife Commission. More than 1,000 people joined WDFW fishery managers during these virtual meetings, with over 600 people providing feedback on the Department's coastal steelhead management web page.

This year's season follows similar actions taken last season to help achieve conservation objectives, including restricting the use of bait and fishing from a boat, ultimately ending in an early closure to help increase the number of wild steelhead that returned to the spawning grounds.

Tribal co-managers along the coast continue to enact measures to restrict their fisheries alongside the Department to address concerns for declining returns of steelhead. The co-managers expedited data exchange, shared concerns, and supported more advance public notice and engagement throughout the pre-season planning process.

WDFW continues to operate under its Statewide Steelhead Management Plan, which requires the Department to prioritize the sustainability of wild coastal steelhead runs by focusing on healthy levels of abundance, productivity, diversity, and distribution.

For more information about coastal steelhead management, the pre-season planning process, and recordings of prior public meetings, please visit [wdfw.wa.gov/coastal-steelhead](https://wdfw.wa.gov/coastal-steelhead) (/coastal-steelhead).

For the full fishing rule change, please visit [fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/erule.jsp?id=2782](https://fortress.wa.gov/dfw/erules/efishrules/erule.jsp?id=2782). Anglers must release all wild steelhead.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife works to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

# FYI – NEWS YOU CAN USE

from WWC – Autumn Issue

There is a new animal-rights organization in our state called Washington Wildlife First (WWF). They are an umbrella/unity organization for the animal-rights community like WWC is for the sporting community. Washington Wildlife First organization was started by Seattle attorney Claire Loeb Davis, managing partner of the law firm Animal and Earth Advocates, and she is also the acting board President. She is about as hardcore an animal-rights person as you will find.

These people are hellbent on redefining conservation to preservation; and pushing consumptive users out of the picture. I'm sure many of you have already heard of IP13 in Oregon, but if you haven't, if enacted, IP13 would criminalize hunting, fishing, trapping, ranching, and various agricultural practices. This petition was thrown out in Colorado, but animal-rights activists believe they can accomplish their goals through the Governor's office in Washington, thus saving themselves millions in a campaign fight. The animal-rights groups push Governor Inslee hard to appoint two more animal-rights activists to the Commission. Fred Koontz and Lorna Smith were pushed for appointment to the Wildlife Commission. If appointed, they would control the Commission and how wildlife is managed for this state.



# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE.

**WITH A NEW YEAR SOON  
APPROACHING, REMEMBER TO GET  
IN YOUR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL.**

For more information, visit [bremertonsportsmensclub.org](http://bremertonsportsmensclub.org)



## **COMMISSION TO CONSIDER LAND TRANSACTIONS, HYDRAULIC CODE RULE MAKING, AND NON-NATIVE GAME FISH AND FISHERIES POLICY DURING DECEMBER MEETING**

**Date** Nov 29, 2021

**Contact** Commission office, 360-902-2267

OLYMPIA – The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission is expected to make decisions on land transactions, hydraulic code rule making, non-native game fish and fisheries policy, and chair and vice chair elections during its Dec. 2-3 virtual meeting. In addition, the Commission will also discuss proposed amendments to recreational fish and shellfish regulations and receive a briefing on the Governor's salmon recovery budget priorities.

The Commission will hold Wildlife, Fish, and Wolf committee meetings on Dec. 2 to hear briefings on a suite of topics, including Blue Mountains elk, fisheries management, and draft language for the wolf-livestock conflict deterrence rule. On Friday, Dec. 3, the full Commission will consider two land transactions proposed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). WDFW proposes to acquire 290 acres of shrubsteppe habitat in Yakima County that would link two existing WDFW-managed wildlife area units: Cowiche and Oak Creek. Another proposal seeks to acquire a 34-acre conservation easement in Thurston County that provides wetland habitat for Oregon spotted frog.

For more details about the proposed land transactions, visit WDFW's website.

Also on Friday, the Commission is expected to vote on a proposed policy guiding management of non-native game fish and fisheries within the state. To learn more about development of that policy, visit the webpage.

The Commission will also hear a briefing and public comment on proposed sport fishing and shellfish rule changes that support conservation objectives and clarify several regulations. Comments on those proposed regulations can also be submitted online. Finally, the Commission will consider new chair and vice chair positions prior to de-briefing the meeting.

The Commission will take open public comment on Friday morning and as part of many agenda items throughout the meeting. All members of the public are invited to share their perspective and participate in WDFW public feedback opportunities regardless of race, color, sex, age, national origin, language proficiency, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, veteran status, or basis of disability.

To support COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, this meeting will be conducted online and be available to the public to watch or listen via webinar or conference call. Members of the public interested in providing verbal public comment, can pre-register on WDFW's website. Pre-registration closes at 8 a.m. Friday for Friday's comment periods and at 8 a.m. on Saturday for Saturday's comment periods. Find more information on how to comment and view the agenda on WDFW's website. The meeting will also be recorded and posted online so people can also watch afterwards at their convenience.

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission is a panel appointed by the governor that sets policy for the WDFW. WDFW works to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.

Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format, language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email ([Title6@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Title6@dfw.wa.gov)).

## Kitsap County Hearing Examiner Link to Lake Tahuya Public Access Hearing - Hearing Examiner ([kitsapgov.com](https://kitsapgov.com))

BSC is waiting for the public hearing on the Lake Tahuya Public Access. Our club has requested notification from the Kitsap County Hearing Examiner with the scheduled hearing date. Those who are interested should click the link provided.

# Soft Molasses Cookies Recipe

[www.thecookierookie.com/molasses-cookies/](http://www.thecookierookie.com/molasses-cookies/)

1 1/2 cup shortening melted	1/2 teaspoon salt
2 cups sugar	1/2 teaspoon coarse salt
1/4 cup molasses light or dark, but not blackstrap	1 teaspoon ground cloves
2 eggs slightly beaten	1 teaspoon ground ginger
4 cups all-purpose flour	2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
4 teaspoons baking soda	

- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Combine melted shortening, sugar, and molasses in a bowl, and beat together for about 3 minutes.
- Add in the eggs and beat for another 2 minutes, until well blended.
- Combine all dry ingredients, and then add the shortening/sugar mixture and beat everything together.
- Let the dough sit for 10 minutes.
- Roll the dough into balls, roll them in sugar if desired, and then place the balls of dough on a parchment paper-lined baking sheet.
- Bake cookies at 350°F for 10-11 minutes.
- When completely cool, store them in an airtight container (if you don't eat them all first!). Make plenty so you can share with friends and family!



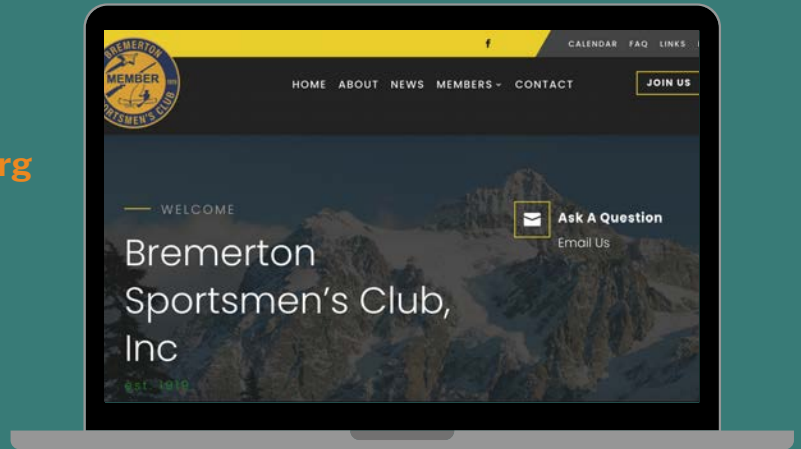
# We're now online!

For latest news, calendar of events, member access and more, visit our new website at [bremertonsportsmensclub.org](http://bremertonsportsmensclub.org)



Like us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/bremertonsportsmensclub](http://www.facebook.com/bremertonsportsmensclub)



If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please submit all materials to [GetOutdoors@BremertonSportsmensClub.org](mailto:GetOutdoors@BremertonSportsmensClub.org).

## Conservation Pledge:

*I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my country – it's air, soil and minerals; it's forests, waters and wildlife."*



*Invite others to join the club and share this membership form!*



## 2022 BSC Membership Form

Individual \$15.00 / Couples \$20.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_