



BREMERTON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2022 EDITION

THE SPORTSMAN

The Oldest Sportsmen's Club in Washington State!

President: Ron Flerx 360-871-0846 | **Vice President:** Ed Sterling 360-627-7855 | **Secretary:** Arvilla Ohlde 360-275-3409 **Treasurer:** John McIntosh 360-692-8646 | **Trustees:** Pos 1. Bob Overly (term expires 2023), Pos 2. Dennis Ohlde (term expires 2024), Pos 3. Ron Qualman (term expires 2023), Pos 4. Vacant (term expires 2024) | **Membership Chairman:** Cele Sterling 360-627-7855 | **Newsletter Editor:** Cheyanne Flerx 360-990-3696

President's Message

Well, here we are midway through February, and I'm happy to report that our 2022 membership renewals are starting to show up. We currently have ten paid family memberships and four single memberships. Thanks to those who have renewed and those new members who have recently joined us.

On February 8th, your BSC Officers and Board conducted a conference call meeting. The agenda included the Treasurer's Report, President's Report detailing the Lake Tahuya public access update, our website progress, and Election and Seating of officers and Trustees. In addition, the minutes of our conference call was emailed to all the present participants to review for accuracy. Once all comments are gathered with corrections, the minutes will be distributed to those current members of BSC.

Sadly, I report to you that we have lost one of our longtime members, Terry Sonnabend. Terry passed on February 12th. Terry was a loyal and dedicated member of the Bremerton Sportsmen's Club, past President, and had served on the Board of Trustees. Terry was a true leader not only for the Bremerton Sportsmen's Club but our community as well. Our hearts go out to his family and friends.

Lake Tahuya Update: WDFW Property Lake Tahuya Shoreline Substantial Development Permit Environmental Application Number 20-06035. I have nothing new to report other than the WDFW's permit remains stalled at Kitsap County Department of Community Development. DCD has had this resubmitted permit for 27 days and has done nothing! I spoke with Commissioner Charolette Garrido on February 4th with a promise from her to help move this permit to a public hearing quickly. Unfortunately, as of this date, February 15th, it's apparent DCD is snubbing their noses at Commissioner Garrido, WDFW staff, Bremerton Sportsmen's Club, Washington State, and local communities desiring public access to local lakes for recreation.

As recent as February 3rd, Bremerton Sportsmen's Club hand-delivered an informational Lake Tahuya packet to all three Kitsap County Commissioners requesting action. Only Commissioner Garrido has reached out to us. To my knowledge, neither Commissioner Gelder nor Commissioner Wolfe has responded to our request. It's now time for all of us to let it be known that this is not a new permit but only an updated resubmittal permit with additional information provided by WDFW information requested by Kitsap County DCD. It's now time to let it be known we demand this Lake Tahuya public access permit for Lake Tahuya be moved to a public hearing.



President's Message (cont.)

When will we meet in person? Many are asking this question, and I propose we hold our general meeting in person on March 22nd at the Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club, 7553 State Hwy. 3 S.W., Bremerton WA. Pot luck at 6:00 PM with the General Meeting to follow at 7:00 PM. March 22nd is the fourth Tuesday of the month, which meets our 4th Tuesday of the month, meeting schedule requirements per BSC Bi-Laws. I would appreciate your input on my proposal, call or email with your thoughts. Thanks in advance.

In closing, it's now time to renew our membership. If you haven't already done so, please consider renewing for 2022. Mail your membership renewal to our post office box at P.O. Box 522 Bremerton, WA 98337, or you can also renew on the website at www.bremertonsportsmensclub.org.

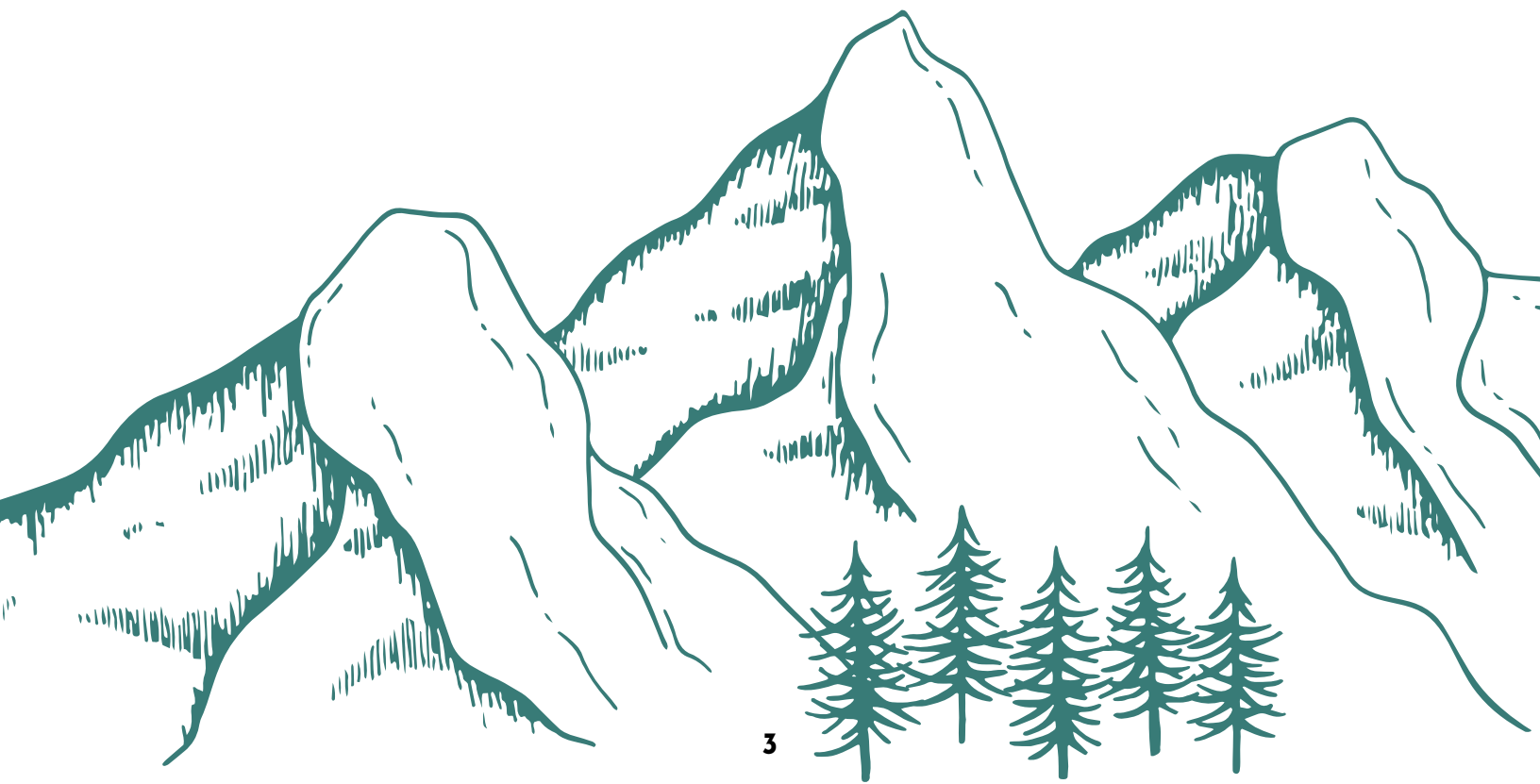
Until we have the opportunity to meet again, stay safe, get outdoors and play. Reminder, Area 10 reopens for salmon on February 24th.

Ron Flerx

President – BSC

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Above: Lisa Balton, fisheries field technician, empties a shrimp trap used to capture invasive European green crab in the Lummi Sea Pond.
Below: European green crab can be identified by the five spines on either side of their eyes.



Bobbie Buzzell, Lummi Nation Department of Natural Resources (2)

European Crab Invasion Declared Disaster by Lummi

A European green crab can consume 40 half-inch clams a day and will dig six inches to hunt one down. It preys upon young oysters and can take out a Dungeness crab its size. It burrows into marsh banks and uproots eelgrass beds, which are considered important nursery habitat for juvenile salmon.

"It's an aggressive predator," said Ben Starkhouse, fisheries harvest manager for the Lummi Nation. "That's common for a lot of invasive species that get introduced to an area and don't have natural predators to keep the population in check. They can get established and their populations can grow quite quickly."

And so it is with this invasive green crab, whose population growth in Lummi's waters spurred the Lummi Indian Business Council on Nov. 23 to declare the green crab invasion a disaster, setting in motion steps to at least control it. A task force will lead development and implementation of a comprehensive response strategy, which Chairman Willie Jones Jr. said will likely entail aggressive trapping.

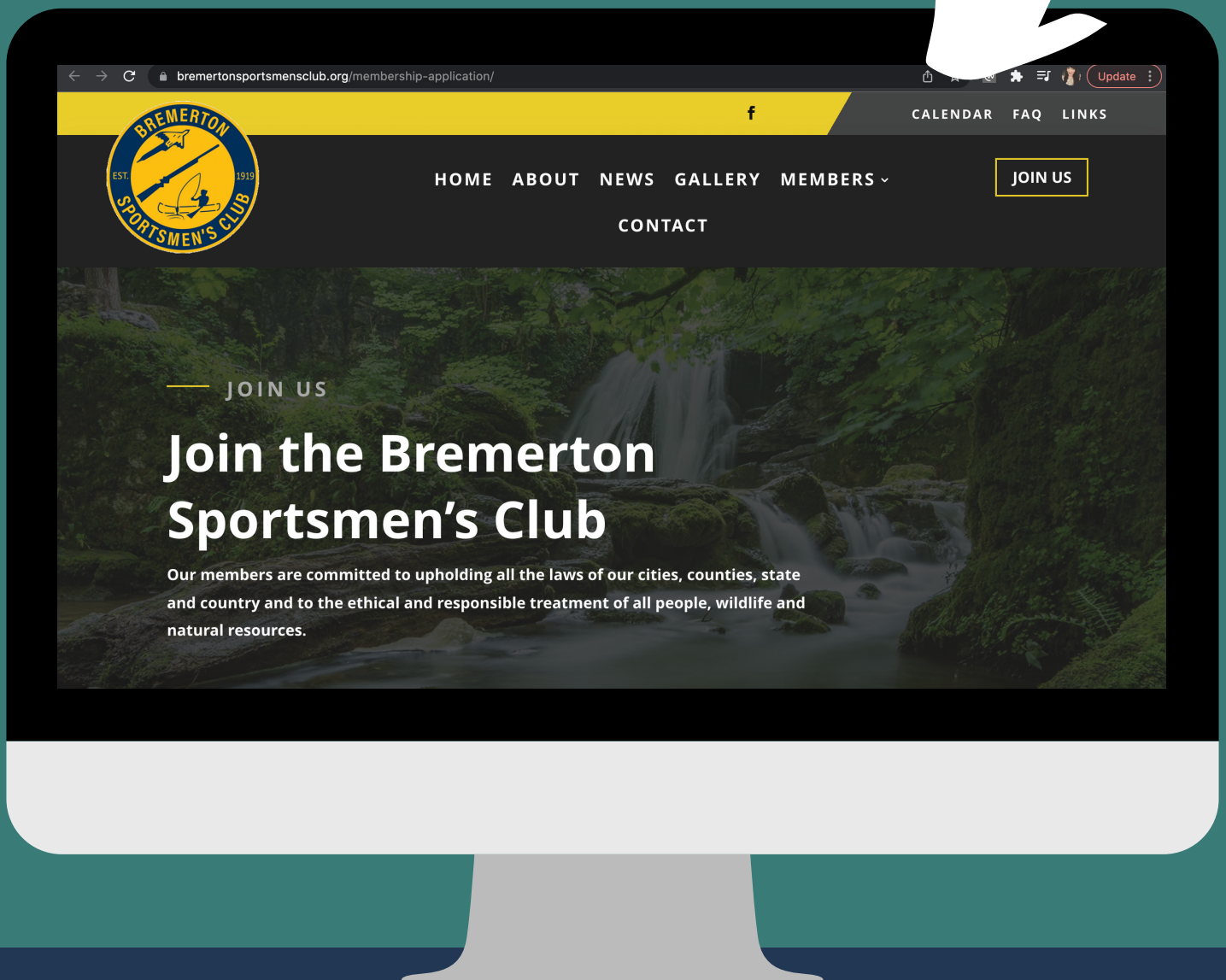
"The European green crab is a serious threat to our treaty fishing rights," Jones said. "We need a huge increase in effort and resources to properly address the green crab invasion, and it's going to take a coordinated response from tribal, state and federal partners. There is no time to waste."

The green crab is originally from Europe and northern Africa and is highly adaptable. It was first reported on the East Coast of the U.S. in the mid-1800s, and in the last decade was implicated in the rapid decline of Maine's steamer clam industry. The invasive crab was first detected on the West Coast in 1989, likely having arrived either in a ship's ballast water or in a shipment of live seafood from the East Coast, Starkhouse said. Green crab populations have since been reported on the coast of Oregon, Washington and British Columbia as well as within the Salish Sea.

The first handfuls of green crab on the Lummi Reservation tidelands were found in late 2019 in the Lummi Sea Pond, a shallow, 750-acre aquatic area where the tribe cultivates shellfish and juvenile salmon. Within two years, more than 70,000 have been captured within the sea pond.

"At this point, a complete eradication of European green crab from the Salish Sea, and from the Lummi Reservation tidelands, is not likely," Starkhouse said. "The plan is to significantly increase our trapping and removal efforts and reduce the population to a level that's not going to cause an immediate threat to the surrounding nearshore environment or habitat." – Richard Walker

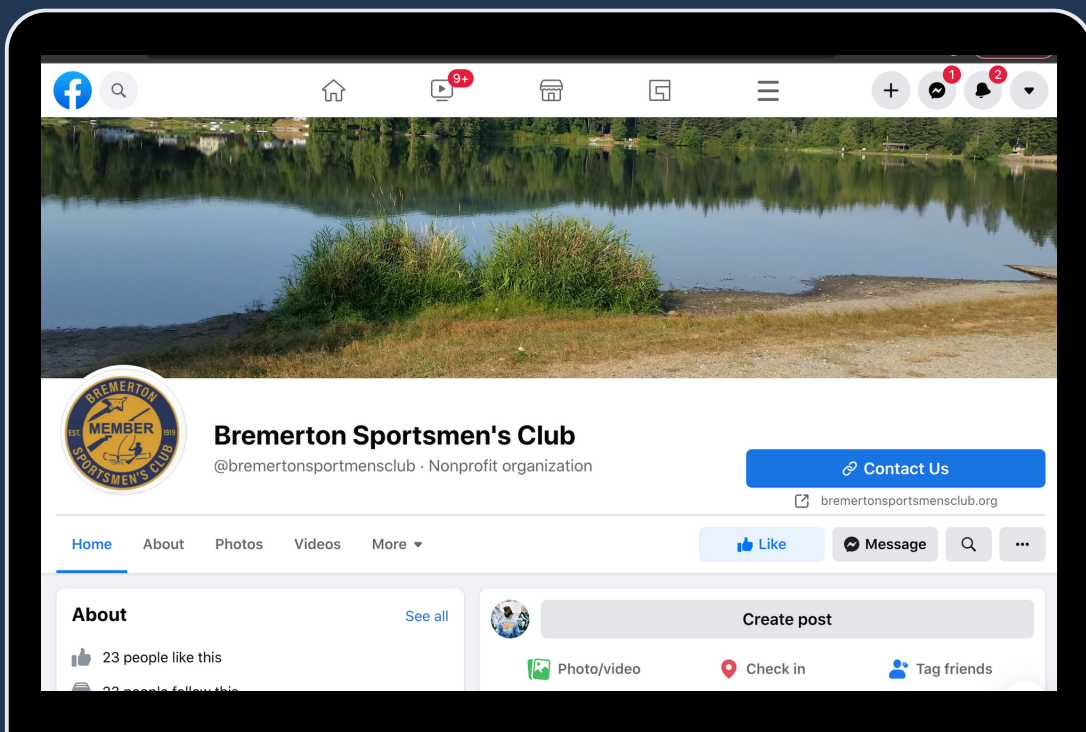
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP



bremertonsportsmensclub.org/membership-application/



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Biden Admin Negotiating with Animal Activists Over Public Land Hunting

Posted on February 15, 2022

An animal-rights group and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have announced settlement discussions over a lawsuit that could revoke hunting opportunities on nearly 100 National Wildlife Refuges nationwide. In November, the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) filed suit over the 2020 expansion of hunting and fishing opportunities on 2.2 million acres within the refuge system. The litigious group alleges that hunting on refuges threatens endangered species due to hunters trampling critical habitat, through lead poisoning as a result of spent ammunition and because grizzly bears are mistakenly shot by hunters believing them to be black bears or in self-defense.

The lawsuit seemed a long shot given the [1997 National Wildlife Refuge Improvement Act](#), landmark legislation drafted and pushed through Congress by the Sportsmen's Alliance, which ensured that hunting, fishing and trapping would occur on any refuge where it is compatible. The historic law has opened millions of acres to hunting as every Presidential administration since has touted expansion of opportunities within the system.

However, [the surprise joint filing by the Biden Administration and CBD asking for a delay](#) in the court proceedings while the two sides conduct settlement talks sends an alarming message to hunting groups that are preparing to intervene in the lawsuit to ensure the rights of sportsmen are protected. Should the administration reach an agreement, CBD would likely not have to spend a single legal dollar, as these settlements often include payment of legal fees using taxpayer dollars. Worse, any settlement will likely include restrictions or revocation of hunting opportunities. The Sportsmen's Alliance and other conservation groups were offered no warning of the pending talks, nor offered a seat at the table.

"A few short months ago, the Biden Administration was touting the [largest expansion of hunting and fishing in history](#) on these lands and now they're negotiating with animal-rights activists over hunting opportunities, while excluding sportsmen from having a seat at the table," said Evan Heusinkveld, president and CEO of the Sportsmen's Alliance Foundation, which has been preparing to defend hunting on refuges in the case. "It's no surprise that animal-rights and anti-hunting groups want to stop hunting, but sportsmen shouldn't tolerate being shut out as the Biden Administration negotiates away hunting opportunities on public lands."

The best way to save these hunting opportunities from being lost is for American sportsmen to contact their U.S. Congressmen and U.S. Senators to oppose these backroom negotiations.

Sportsmen need to speak up immediately! Call your U.S. Senators and Representative and make sure they hear your voice. Use the [Sportsmen's Alliance Legislative Action Center](#) to reach your Senators and Representatives.



BLACKENED TILAPIA

<https://www.delish.com/cooking/recipe-ideas/a25239430/blackened-tilapia-recipe/>

Serves: 4 | Prep Time 15 minutes | Total Time 25 minutes

INGREDIENTS

For Tilapia

- 2 tbsp. packed brown sugar
- 4 tsp. ground cumin
- 2 tsp. kosher salt
- 2 tsp. paprika
- 2 tsp. dried oregano
- 1 tsp. freshly ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 4 (6-oz.) tilapia filets
- 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil

For Avocado Salsa

- 2 avocados, diced
- 2 tomatoes, diced
- 1 jalapeño, minced
- 2 tbsp. chopped cilantro
- 2 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- Juice of 1 lime
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

DIRECTIONS:

1. In a small bowl, combine brown sugar and spices. Rub spice mix all over tilapia.
2. In a large cast-iron skillet over medium heat, heat oil. Add tilapia and cook until crust is deeply golden and fish flakes easily with a fork, 2 to 3 minutes per side.
3. In a medium bowl, toss avocado, tomato, jalapeño, and cilantro. Add oil and lime juice and season with salt and pepper.
4. Serve tilapia topped with avocado salsa.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please submit all materials to Cheyanne Flerx at cheyanneflerx@gmail.com.

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: _____

Bring to next meeting or mail check to: Bremerton Sportsmen's Club, P.O. Box 522 ,
Bremerton, WA. 98337 or you can sign up on our website!