



Conserving and protecting cold water fisheries



Connecting Women and Fly Fishing



Issue: Fall 2016  
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## Federal Agencies Begin New Plan for Columbia-Snake Salmon

*Submit comments and join a flotilla in support of restoring salmon*

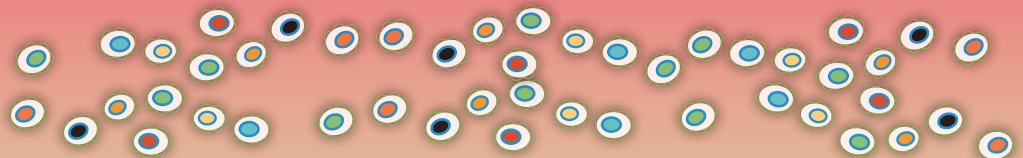
Last spring a federal judge threw out the federal government's salmon plan (called a Biological Opinion) for Columbia-Snake salmon and ordered them to develop a new one that met the law and followed sound science. Judge Simon strongly urged the federal agencies to include removal of the four lower Snake River dams, noting that dam removal was likely the best option both economically and biologically for restoring wild salmon and steelhead.

This fall/winter, salmon advocates will have a chance to urge the federal agencies and our elected leaders to remove four low-value high-cost dams on the lower Snake River to restore wild salmon and steelhead. Despite efforts

from a diverse coalition of fishing, recreation and conservation interests, the federal agencies have punted time and time again. But the landscape has changed. *This time we have a real shot at getting the dams out and the fish back.*

Fish scientists have long advocated lower Snake dam removal as the cornerstone to restoring wild salmon to the rivers of Idaho, northwest Oregon and southeast Washington. Each dam adds to fish mortality, but the 4 dams located in eastern Washington are especially lethal. The water behind these dams reaches lethal temperatures every year as the sun beats down on a river winding through desert shrub steppe. Climate change is

*(Snake River continued on p.3)*



**Our mission:** We are advocates protecting, reconnecting and sustaining the wild & native coldwater fish of the Inland Northwest Region.

**Our vision:** To create a legacy ensuring ecosystems that support robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish in our home waters.

We are a gathering of conservation minded anglers who share a passion for fish, fishing and conservation.

### Please join us!

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesdays September through June.

Hugo's on the Hill - 3023 E 28th Ave., Spokane

# TU SUMMER FISHING TRIPS 2016

This summer the Chapter sponsored two social fishing outings, one to the Big Hank Campground on the NF of the CDA River, and one to the Hidden Creek Campground on the NF of the Clearwater River. Although the Big Hank trip on June 24-26 was officially canceled, several of us got together for the unofficial TU "meet a trout up close" festivities. Dick, Kathy, Daniel, and Katie Brereton were joined by Kimbo and Wendy May, Megan Ellis, Brian Raska and two additional friends. Great time had by all "unofficially".

The NF of the Clearwater proved to be a terrific trip! This was the weekend of July 29-31. This outing produced trout in the 10-18" range all weekend and Costco Sausages in the 12" range with all the fixin's at the Saturday night BBQ. Those attending were Dick, Daniel and Katie Brereton, Jodi Fitts, Heather Hodson, Deanna Camp, Megan Ellis and Brian Raska. Great fishing was had with stoneflies, stimulators, mayflies and a new fly nicknamed the Frankenfly (Katie's secret) hooking many a lip.



Many folks in the double digits! Heather found a "honey hole" by "the logjam" which produced 2 large 16-18" Cutties. No one else could find this spot as the Clearwater has "logjams" every 50 yards. Heather's secret is safe!

Truly great socializing over meals, libations (thanks Deanna for being a terrific bartender), campfires and fish stories. WE WILL BE BACK....

What a great way to spend time with TU friends old and new! Any ideas for future fishing locations don't be afraid to pass them on to a Board Member. Always looking for ways to "get to know" our TU community.

Spokane Women on the Fly has had lots of success on their outings, particularly a trip to Curlew Lake for Tiger Musky. The weekend trip was guided by Dave Dana of Silver Bow Fly Shop.

Women of various experience levels came out to try for the "fish of 1000 casts" and one enormous musky took the huge fly.

Jen Barcklay, a former helicopter mechanic, brought in a 40" Musky -- her first on a fly. Jen also caught her first Steelhead on a fly this year. Go Jen!

See the details in the Spokesman Review article by Rich Landers here: [bit.ly/2bDJQtX](http://bit.ly/2bDJQtX)



## Tangled Up - Women on the Fly

Trout Unlimited is partnering with the Inland NW Land Conservancy and the Kalispel Tribe for **Tangled Up**.

Opening with the Salmon Dinner (open to all) Friday night. On Saturday, the Women's Fly Fishing 101 will be led by Heather Hodson, Trout Unlimited Western Regional Women's Initiative representative and founder Spokane Women on the Fly (SWOTF). You'll also meet several of the SWOTF women who will be volunteering their time to help with casting and knots.

**Salmon Dinner** - Friday, October 21st, 2016 - 6:30pm - 9pm (open to all) Kalispel Golf and Country Club.

Award winning Chefs Bob Rogers and Ty Schwenk offer a cross comparison dinner showcasing farm raised and wild caught salmon, with a demonstration and health facts comparing the two types of salmon. No-host bar.

### Tickets:

[tangledup-womenonthefly.bpt.me](http://tangledup-womenonthefly.bpt.me)



To wrap up this exceptional experience, SIMMS will be present at the end of class to showcase all their women's fly fishing gear. A no-host happy hour will allow time to untangle yourself from all the fly fishing knowledge and build relationships with your fellow women anglers.

The Saturday 101 class will fill up quickly!

### Register today:

[tangledup-womenonthefly.bpt.me](http://tangledup-womenonthefly.bpt.me)

**Women's Fly Fishing 101** - October 22nd 2016 - 8:30am - 5pm (open to women) Kalispel Golf and Country Club

Enjoy this unique, one-of-a-kind women's fly fishing instructional weekend where you will learn the basics of fly fishing, or you can polish up your skills.

Beginning promptly at 9 a.m. (check in at 8:30). Golf cart shuttles will guide you to the tenth hole where casting instruction will be held on the fall greens.



(Snake River continued from p.1)

making the problem worse. Last year 99% of Idaho's sockeye salmon perished in the system. These catastrophes will become even more frequent unless salmon are provided an easier journey home.

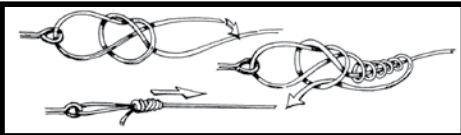
The science hasn't changed. But the politics, economics and public opinion have shifted dramatically in the past 10 years. Barging on the lower Snake (the main benefit of the dams) has declined nearly 70 percent as shippers choose other options, while the costs of repairing the aging dams mount. Meanwhile, NW residents and politicians have seen first-hand the incredible ecological and economic benefits dam removal brings communities. Elwha, White

Salmon and other river restorations have changed the conversation.

There has never been a window like we have right now to recover wild salmon and steelhead in the Inland West. The federal agencies have been given until March 27, 2020 to develop a draft EIS (Environmental Impact Statement). They will begin an initial public comment process this fall or winter, with public hearings held around the Northwest, including here in Spokane. Fishing and conservation groups will be joining forces to push the agencies to include dam removal as the preferred alternative in the draft EIS.

SFTU and the Palouse-Clearwater TU Chapter join with anglers, outfitters, conservationists, tribal members and

others for a rally on the river in support of removing the four lower Snake River dams **September 17th in Clarkston WA at Swallows Park**. Drift boats, motor boats, canoes, kayaks and rafts will paddle down to the confluence of the Clearwater and Snake Rivers for a celebration of the Snake River. We encourage TU members to join us on the water. Register and get the details at [www.freethesnake.com](http://www.freethesnake.com).



### Kreh Loop

This no-slip loop knot is great for tying on a fly. Different from a tight knot, like a Clinch Knot, it allows for free movement of the fly on the end of the line.

## Trout in Hangman Creek?



We've heard rumors of trout in the Washington section of Hangman Creek, California Creek to be more specific. On Saturday, July 9th a group of citizen scientists from SFTU, Eastern Washington University and Spokane Riverkeeper set out to see if the rumors were true. Using backpack electroshocking equipment, nets and buckets the group split into two teams and searched two sections of lower California Creek.



We found sculpins, redband shiners, dace, pikeminnows, suckers and yes TROUT.

This is the start of a series of studies that we will be undertaking with students from EWU over the next few years. We will be working to understand the abundance and behaviors of trout in the Hangman Creek Watershed and under what conditions Spokane River Redband Trout may be using the tributary.

Stay tuned for more...



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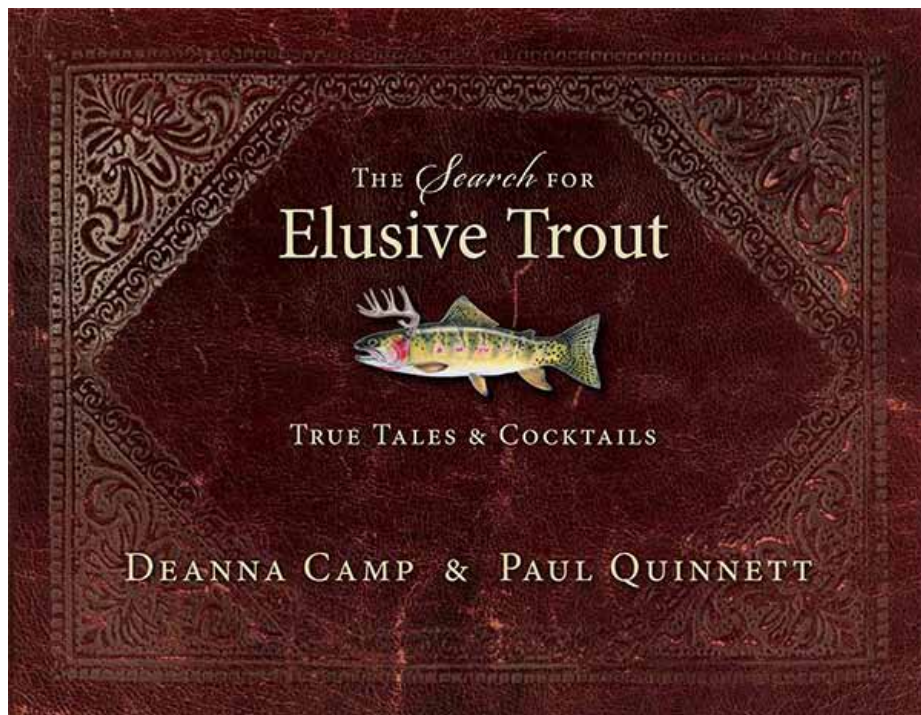
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## Elusive Trout

If you were a trout, what trout would you be? This is a underlying premise behind the story of my whimsical trout illustrations. Each one represents an appeal to some core human passion—a characteristic, a hobby, a favorite animal or place—that may be interesting or engaging to us humans. Who hasn't ever marveled at how beautiful trout patterns are? Each one of my trout is designed using natural trout species as models, and then I embellish a little.

The Search For Elusive Trout - True Tales & Cocktails, is a humorous coffee table book I co-created with Paul Quinnett, a noted psychologist and author of Pavlov's Trout and Darwin's Bass.

The book is a blend of Paul's fishing stories paired with my design and trout illustrations full of useful information on how, where and why to go search for these trout. We even developed cocktail recipes to add to the presentation, which just seemed to fit the whole spirit of the idea! We all know that fishing and tall-tale telling go best with a libation or two! These have been thoroughly tested by the best!



NATIVE REDBAND TROUT  
*Oncorhynchus spkaniata*

My most recent trout illustration, The Spokane Redband Trout, was commissioned by Bill Abrahamse of TU to reflect our community and it's assets. You'll see the Monroe Street Bridge, the river, and a nod to the culture here before us, depicted in the full-color trout rendering.

10% of profits from purchases of Redband Trout merchandise such as the Flyfish Spokane poster, the Redband 9x12" print or the T-Shirt will benefit TU directly.

To see the full line go to:  
[www.elusivetroutr.com](http://www.elusivetroutr.com) or contact  
[deanna@elusivetroutr.com](mailto:deanna@elusivetroutr.com)

*Deanna Camp is a creative dynamo and a member of Spokane Women on the Fly and Spokane Falls TU.*

## Trout in the Classroom Release Day



Trout in the Classroom release day at Medical Lake! About 60 5th graders learned something about fly casting thanks to SWOTF and SFTU members. Thanks Jane Winer-Miller for running the casting station.

Students received introductory fly casting hands-on instructions in 20-minute sessions. The students also attended sessions on a variety of topics such as water quality, bugs, birds, and trout lifecycles. The Spokane County Conservation District manages this program.



## Denver Outfitters features Sara Cochran



SWOTF/SFTU Member Sara Cochran was the featured FlyGal for Denver Outfitters. Shown here with her dad, Mike Cochran. See the details: [goo.gl/RFPfCP](http://goo.gl/RFPfCP)