

The WSA Guzzler



WENATCHEE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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Vice President: Keith Boyd (679-5035)

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Matt Gutzwiler (663-1526)

GAME FEED CHAIRMAN:

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Youth Hunting & Fishing Day Chairman:

Keith Boyd (679-0535)

The WSA Guzzler is Published Monthly by the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association

Issue No. 8 -November 2018

Sorry for the delayed newsletter... those darn hunting seasons are keeping my attention on the hills and not the keyboard. I hope your freezers are full or filling up nicely, or you've at least found a good recipe for tag soup. If so pass it along, I have a couple tags dry aging as we speak.

WSA ISSUES & ITEMS

Game meat donations. Matt is still looking for more wild game meat donations. He's picked up a little but we're always looking for more! The Game Feed is right around the corner. I'm sure some of you have some deer or elk or antelope that you didn't have any plans for. If so, the club would love to use it. Same for any fish any anglers might have extra of. Call Matt if you have any to give, (509 421 9282).

Fish Lake. The club is still actively engaged and following the current planning effort at Fish lake to provide better access and a more equitable share of the public fish resources within the lake. If you'd like more into on this topic or have questions feel free to contact Matt Gutzwiler (509 421 9282), Keith Boyd (509 679 5035), or Dan Dickerson (509 670 5498).

Mission Ridge Expansion. The comment period for both the Forest Service planning process as well as the Chelan County planning process as come and gone. The WSA submitted comments regarding concerns the club has over the impacts to wildlife on the adjacent public lands. Many community members have wrongly claimed that the WSA is against Mission Ridge and anti non-hunting and fishing recreation. These claims are not true, we are not against anyone nor any specific user group. However, as conservationists and stewards of the public wildlife resources the WSA Board felt strongly that wildlife needed a voice in this important process. If a development of this scale in this location is to occur then it must be done in a manner that minimizing impacts to wildlife while using the best science to establish offset and mitigation requirements, these are the things the club is actively advocating for.

Stemilt Recreation Planning. As a voting member of the Stemilt Partnership we have been actively engaged in the various Recreation Plan iterations that have been working through the Partnership and the County for the last year. Going forward there are three primary alternative as well as a "No Actions" option. Our primary concerns are with the Summer Recommendations, as the bulk of the wildlife use occurs outside of the Winter Recreation Plan Recommendations. Plan alternative's can be viewer on the County's website:

<https://www.co.chelan.wa.us/natural-resources/pages/stemilt-squilchuck-recreation-planning>

(documents and maps on linked on the right-hand side). Voting on the alternatives should take place in the upcoming Stemilt Partnership meeting. We encourage members to attend these meetings to show support for wildlife. Board Member Dave Gimlin has been selected as our club representative at these meetings.

Thanks You. I'd like to give a big thank you to WSA President Don Millar and Secretary Dan Dickerson for lining us out and signing the club up for the proper insurance for our activities. This was not an easy or simply task and it was certainly one that nobody "wanted" to do. But it was a needed effort and the club is much better off for it. Thank you, thank you.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November General Meeting, November 20th, 2018: Presenter Dave Volson, Wenatchee Regional WDFW Biologist. This is a great opportunity to ask the local biologist specific questions related to wildlife here in the Wenatchee valley. In previous meeting Dave has been more than gracious with his time answering members questions on everything for deer populations to the genetic effects of antler point restrictions. All General Meetings are held at the United Steelworkers Union Hall, 180 Rock Island Road, East Wenatchee.

Bird Feeder filling: Project Coordinator Bill Stegman has been coordinating with both managers of the Colockum Wildlife Area and the Chelan Butte Area to fill the bird feeders with grain. This is a family friendly event, my two kids (4 and 7) have tagged along the last two years, both times we've seen tons of wildlife. The goal is to get them filled prior to the snow hitting. The specific dates and times are still being sorted out. If you'd like to join us on one of these efforts we'd love to have the help, give Bill a call at 509 393 9528.

December General Meeting, December 18th, 2018: Presenter TBD. All General Meetings are held at the United Steelworkers Union Hall, 180 Rock Island Road, East Wenatchee.

January General Meeting, January 15th, 2018: Presenter TBD. All General Meetings are held at the United Steelworkers Union Hall, 180 Rock Island Road, East Wenatchee.

February General Meeting, February 19th, 2018: This will likely be an update on the Game Feed and is a prime opportunity to learn about different Volunteer opportunities we have for this event. All General Meetings are held at the United Steelworkers Union Hall, 180 Rock Island Road, East Wenatchee.

Wild Game Feed. March 2, 2019. St Joseph Catholic Church this year. The venue should provide much more space than the Red Lion has the last few years. Tickets will go on sale before Christmas. All Game Feed related questions can be directed to Game Feed Chairman Robert Scoville (rscoville61@gmail.com).