

# THE GORGE SPORTSMAN

HUNTING & FISHING  
IN THE GORGE



2017-2018

A SPECIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DALLES CHRONICLE AND THE HOOD RIVER NEWS

# TIRES

FOR ALL YOUR  
**OUTDOOR**  
ADVENTURES



**GET YOUR ALL-SEASON, OFF-ROAD,  
4X4, ATV, & UTV TIRES TODAY!**



**GET TO THE POINT**

**Tire and Auto Service**

945 Tucker Road, Hood River  
541.386.2285 (after hours 541.806.4554)

**Monday - Saturday**  
**8:00 am - 5:30 pm**

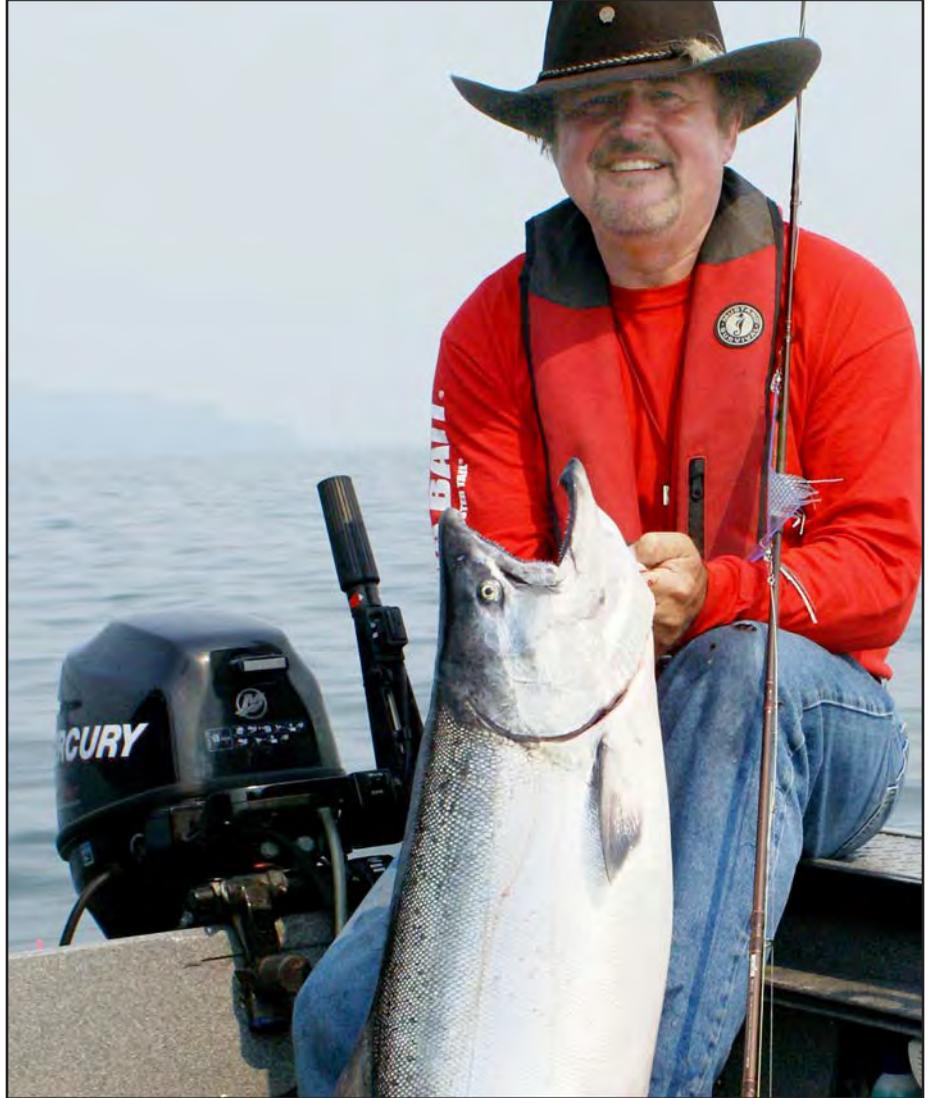
1116 W. 2nd Street, The Dalles  
541.298.5121 (after hours 541.993.8473)

# THE GORGE SPORTSMAN

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Frozen fish to gourmet treats</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>spice up your leftovers with a smokehouse</i>	
<b>Catching Cash</b>	<b>8</b>
<i>anglers reel in big money for pikeminnow</i>	
<b>Reeling In Rulebreakers</b>	<b>12</b>
<i>on patrol with the Oregon State Police</i>	
<b>Fishing tips</b>	<b>19</b>
<i>how to reel in your catch</i>	
<b>A portrait of Karrie Cantrell</b>	<b>20</b>
<i>"It's cool to hunt as a woman"</i>	
<b>Brag Board</b>	<b>24</b>
<i>our readers' best photos this year</i>	
<b>The Call of the Wild</b>	<b>28</b>
<i>ways to lure game</i>	
<b>Boyhood Memories</b>	<b>32</b>
<i>local mountains inspire "Carcajou" Cliff Elliott</i>	
<b>Fishing in the Gorge</b>	<b>36</b>
<i>a bounty of opportunities</i>	
<b>Hunting Tips</b>	<b>38</b>
<i>talking turkey</i>	
<b>Long range hunting</b>	<b>40</b>
<i>a unique challenge</i>	
<b>Fishing tips</b>	<b>45</b>
<i>catching summer bass</i>	





*from*  
**FROZEN  
FISH**  
*to*  
***gourmet treats***

— by *Buzz Ramsey*  
for the *Gorge Sportsman*

**U**nfortunately, fish don't keep very well when frozen. The more time fish spend in the freezer the less desirable they become. And while there

are ways to make fish last in the freezer for six to twelve months, dropping fillets in a zip-top bag won't get you much past a few weeks before they become bad tasting.

Surprisingly to some, fresh frozen fish lend themselves particularly well to the smoking process; you see, freezing causes cell tissue to burst, so fish that have been frozen take on the flavor of the brine ingredients and smoke better. You can really impress your friends by preparing your freezer fish this way.

Prepare your fish for brining and smoking by cutting your fillets into strips about an inch wide, making sure to leave the skin in place, then thoroughly rinse these fish chunks in cold water and immerse them into your brine solution.

The brine recipe we use most often includes a mixture of 1/2 cup salt, 1 cup sugar and 2 quarts water — this is the right amount for 10-to-20 pounds of fillets. Pre-mix these ingredients in a

stainless steel or plastic container and immerse your fillets into your brining solution. Keep in mind that almost any container will work for brining, but avoid aluminum containers as they can taint the taste of your fish. Then place your filled container in the refrigerator (or cooler with ice), for a minimum of six hours, stirring at least once during the brining process.

You can add other flavorings to your brine solution. Two of our favorite additives are wine (usually one of the fruity varieties) or soy sauce. Amounts vary depending on taste, but you might start off with a cup of wine and/or a quarter cup of soy sauce – just mix it in.

After six to 12 hours, or overnight, remove the fillets from your brine solution and rinse thoroughly in cold water. Remove excess moisture with paper towels and place your fillets on the smoker grills skin side down, which helps prevent them from sticking to the grills after the job is complete.

Another way to add additional flavorings to your fish is to sprinkle spices directly onto your fillets after the brining process – this can be done when the fillets are first placed on your smokehouse grills; for example, you can coat

your fish with liquid brown sugar and sprinkle on your favorite spices, which might include ground onion, garlic and/or black pepper.

It's important to allow your fish to air dry for at least one hour before placing in your smokehouse. Allowing your fillets to air dry will enhance the color, texture and flavor of your fish, and is the secret of many smoking enthusiasts. Then it is time to place your loaded rack in your portable smokehouse.

We use Little and/or Big Chief Smokehouses (we have several) when smoking fish or game, which are fired with an electric heating element that not only burns the wood flavor fuel that creates the smoke but completes the curing process of slowly drying your fish. These portable smokehouses are designed to be used outside, well away from any combustible material. The smoking and curing process will take 8-to-12 hours, depending on the outside temperature, thickness of your fillets, and the quantity of fish.

Wood chips impart their unique flavor to the fish so their selection is important. Hickory is the all-around favorite for fish, jerky, steaks, ribs — almost any food item. Other wood flavors are available

such as apple, cherry and alder, which impart a mild taste and what we use when adding smoke flavor to game birds, poultry or cheese. Mesquite wood imparts a distinct flavor that is popular for jerky or adding smoke-flavor to ribs or steaks — it doesn't take much mesquite to add a lot of wood flavor.

The better quality wood flavor chips have had the bark removed, which can add a bitter taste, and are ground and dried before packaging. A pan full of chips will smoke for about an hour before being consumed, and even though the entire smoking/cooking/drying process may take up to 12 hours, you will only need 2-to-3 pans of wood fuel to add the correct amount of smoke flavor.

After the smoking process is complete, we allow our fillets to cool and then store in a brown paper bag with several paper towels folded at the bottom. Keeping your smoke house treats in a paper bag and stored in your refrigerator will keep them fresh tasting for up to three weeks.

Don't let your frozen fish become freezer burned or poor tasting by remaining in your freezer too long. Wow yourself and friends by smoking them now.



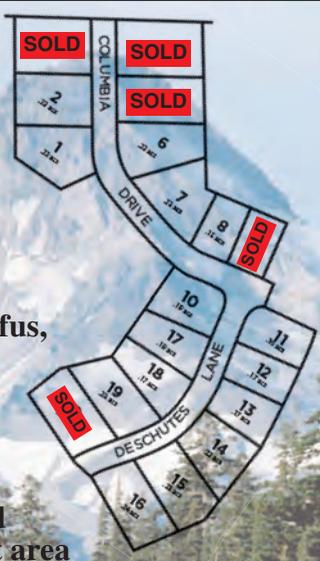
**Windy River Archery**  
Full Service Pro Shop

**Hoyt • P.S.E.**  
**BowTech • Diamond Elite**

**Bob Kendall, Owner**  
2680 Dock Road • 541-386-1142  
PO Box 1149 • Hood River, OR 97031  
windyriverarchery@yahoo.com  
www.windyriverarchery.com



**Gorge Vista**  
Build the home of your dreams.



**New development in Rufus, Oregon to build your dream home. 15 lots to choose from in total, some with view of the Columbia River. This development would make a great retirement area away from the hustle and bustle, weekend home to enjoy all the Gorge's recreational activities! Prices range 25K-35K.**



**Call me today to visit the development and choose your lot!**

**NO BUYERS FEE!**

**CHERI BELANDER REAL ESTATE**  
541-806-5424  
802 W. 6th St. The Dalles  
cheribelanderrealestate@gmail.com





WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?  
PERMISSION???

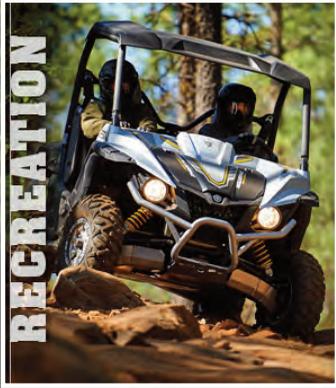
**MCM<sup>2</sup>** MID COLUMBIA  
MARINE & MOTORSPORTS

3335 CASCADE AVE. HOOD RIVER  
1-800-393-2628 . 541-386-2477

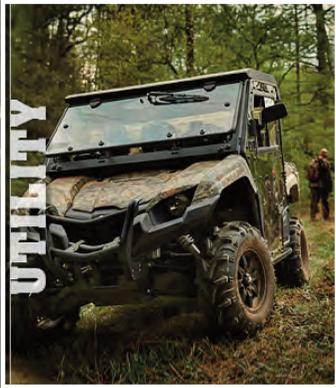
WWW.MCMYAMAHA.COM

BRING THIS AD IN FOR  
\$500 OFF MSRP  
ANY CANAM ATV OR SXS  
CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS APPLY

RECREATION



UTILITY



# Ready to take on terrain most wouldn't dare tiptoe around?

BRING THIS AD IN FOR  
**\$500 OFF MSRP**  
ANY YAMAHA ATV OR SXS  
CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS APPLY



**MCM<sup>2</sup>** MID COLUMBIA  
MARINE & MOTORSPORTS

3335 CASCADE AVE. HOOD RIVER  
1-800-393-2628 . 541-386-2477

WWW.MCMYAMAHA.COM





# Catching Cash

## Anglers reel in big money for pikeminnow

— by Jesse Burkhardt  
for the Gorge Sportsman

There aren't too many recreational activities more relaxing and fun than going fishing. But add in the natural lure of making money, and the Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery Program has it all. It helps the salmon population; it boosts the local economy because it brings numerous anglers to town for food and other supplies; and it is a gratifying way for anglers to supplement their incomes.

The pikeminnow program is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration to help mitigate the impacts of Columbia River dams on fishing resources, and on salmon in particular. The pikemin-

nnows are voracious predators of juvenile salmon and steelhead every year in the Columbia and Snake River systems, and that is why the BPA partners with fish management agencies and tribal officials to control the them.

"It's a big carnivorous minnow," explained Kevin Clawson, a technician with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, which helps operate the program on both sides of the Columbia River. "When they dammed the river, it created a pinch point for juvenile salmon. There is a bounty on the pikeminnows because getting these fish out of the region's waterways helps salmon. Our goal is to remove 20 percent of the larger fish; that will increase the escapement of salmon by 40 percent. This is not eradica-

tion, it's simply population control."

The bounty for the northern pikeminnow this year is set at \$5 per fish for the first 25 fish a person catches in the five-month pikeminnow season, which runs from May 1 to Aug. 31; \$6 per fish for someone catching between 26 and 200 fish; and \$8 per fish for any catch of more than 200.

That may not sound like a lot of money, but consider this: In 2016, 20 anglers came in with reward payments of about \$36,000 each for catching more than 4,200 fish each during the five-month season. And one angler, the most successful northern pikeminnow fisherman of all, earned an incredible \$119,341 last year.

"He was the Michael Jordan of pike-

minnow fishing,” joked Clawson.

Clawson, who lives in The Dalles, is often stationed at The Dalles Boat Basin to accept the fish being brought in and writing vouchers so fishermen can get paid.

“You mail in the voucher and usually get a check within two weeks,” Clawson said.

There are some stipulations, of course: anglers need to have a valid fishing license; they need to register at one of the registration stations every day before they go fishing; and the pikeminnows must be 9 inches long or longer to qualify for the bounty.

The fish can be turned in at any of 19 stations in the Columbia River/Snake River systems, eight of which are in the Columbia River Gorge, including at The Dalles Boat Basin in The Dalles and at the Bingen Marina in Bingen, Wash. Representatives of the program are on duty in well-marked vans to accept the fish and issue vouchers for payments.

The pikeminnow registration station at The Dalles is open from 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., seven days a week during the season; the Bingen station is open from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. every day.

The Dalles is an especially active



Kevin Clawson, a technician with the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, said the goal of the Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery Program is to remove about 20 percent of the larger pikeminnows, which eat millions of juvenile salmon in the Columbia River every year. Jesse Burkhardt photo

location for pikeminnow fishermen. In 2016, The Dalles recorded a total catch of 41,482 pikeminnows, while Bingen collected 8,680.

“We’re the number one station on the river,” Clawson said. “Number two is Boyer Park (near Colfax, Wash.) on the Snake River. We compete with them ev-

ery year, but we’re the champion, usually.”

To make the pikeminnow initiative even more enticing, a few of the pikeminnows have been specially tagged to make them worth \$500 each for the lucky angler who hauls one out of the river.

*(continued on page 10)*

**MAIN ST. CONVENIENCE STORE OPEN 24 HOURS**



**ONE-STOP FOR FISHING & HUNTING SUPPLIES**  
 Licenses • Apparel • Live Bait  
**BEER • WINE • LIQUOR**  
**PIZZA • SUBS • SNACKS**  
**FIREWOOD • PROPANE • GAS**  
**CAMPING EQUIPMENT**  
**PERMITS/DISCOVERY PASSES**  
**WEST END OF STEVENSON, WASH. • 509-427-5653**

**Jakewood's Gun & Pawn**



Bring this ad in for  
**10% OFF Entire Purchase!**  
 (Includes firearms. Consignment items excluded.  
 One discount per family, please.)

**Camping supplies,  
 ammo and fishing tackle**



**Buy - Sell - Trade  
 Consign Firearms**  
 Licensed WA FFL Dealer

Open Tue-Sat 9-5  
 Sun 9-2

**502 State St. • Lyle WA**  
**509-365-2144**



A tub of pikeminnows at The Dalles Boat Basin shows just a portion of one morning's catch. Jesse Burkhardt photo

"The \$500 tags are an added incentive," Clawson said. "There were about 300 tagged this year. Those tags are a big deal, and exciting for the fishermen."

According to Clawson, pikeminnow is not the most appealing fish to eat.

"They are very bony, and the flesh goes bad quickly," Crowder said, adding that the pikeminnows taken from the river go to a rendering plant in Warrenton, where they are used to make fertilizer and cat food.

Clawson believes the program provides a real financial spark for The Dalles and the entire Gorge area.

"On Memorial Day, we had 75 people fishing, and well over half of them were from out of town," Clawson said. "There is a real positive economic impact."

One of the anglers coming to The Dalles to fish for pikeminnow was Steve Bennett, who hails from Onalaska, Wash., southeast of Chehalis.

"I just started this season," said Bennett, who retired from the Sierra Pacific lumber mill in Centralia a few months ago. "I'll come down for two days during the week, and then go back home."

Bennett had some good luck in early June when he came to the area for one of his first pikeminnow experiences. At the registration station at The Dalles, he pulled a fat pikeminnow out of a bucket and showed it off with pride.

"This is the biggest fish I've caught so far," Bennett said. "I thought I had a sturgeon on there. I kept pulling, and finally saw that head came out of the water."

It measured nearly 21 inches long, and it was the biggest eight he had reeled in that morning.

"We started at daylight and fished until about noon," he said.

Bennett said he caught it fishing from the shore on the Washington side of the Columbia River, near Dallesport, and he was using night crawlers for bait.

Clawson was pleased to see the big pikeminnow Bennett brought in. It was pregnant, and Clawson estimated the fish carried between 40,000 and 60,000 eggs.

"We're happy to see that one taken out of the river," Clawson said. "It's a real win for us."

Those going after pikeminnows



FOR ALL THE REASONS WE FLY FISH!



WWW.BIGYFLYCO.COM  
866-660-5758  
541-308-0738

**BIG Y FLY**  
Company

8AM- 6PM  
7 DAYS A WEEK

616 Industrial St.  
Suite 403  
Hood River, OR

fish with a mixture of techniques. Local anglers use night crawlers, chicken livers, fresh salmon eggs, salmon guts, and Mormon crickets to catch the pikeminnows.

“They’ll fish from boats or riverbanks,” Clawson said. “But it’s probably 70 percent/30 percent boats to banks.”

The campaign appears to be paying off very well, both for the juvenile salmon and the anglers who are literally reeling in cash with every pikeminnow. The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission has reported that since 1990, more than 4.6 million of the salmon-swallowing fish have been taken out of the river due to the Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery Program.

Clawson pointed out that conditions can change on the river, so he advised those planning to fish for pikeminnow to get the latest from fisheries officials or fellow anglers.

“For example, they were using one-ounce lead weights last year, but need five-ounces this year because the river current is so strong,” Clawson explained. “It changes weekly by temperature, water, and current.”

The season is scheduled to end Aug. 31, but it might be extended into Sep-



Steve Bennett, a pikeminnow fisherman from Onalaska, Wash., shows off the 21-inch pikeminnow he snagged in the Columbia River near The Dalles in early June. Jesse Burkhardt photo

tember, depending on funding for the program.

Clawson said he expects that to be the case this year.

“We’ll probably go through the end of September,” he said, adding that they could go even longer if the resources were available.

“We got more popular than we are funded for,” Clawson said. “We get about a thousand fish a day when it’s cooler.

Some guys do real well. They’ll fish all night.”

Bennett said he is already planning to come back next year.

“Definitely,” Bennett said. “You’re fishing for money. It’s a great experience, and I’ve met some nice people. It’s real easy. It’s helping salmon and steelhead, and where else do you get paid to go fishing and have fun?”

**Fishing off the shore**

Doesn't compare to fishing off a boat. Save today on Boater's Insurance, because we are here to keep you afloat.

**OREGON TRAIL INSURANCE**  
MICHAEL H. LUEBKE

■ Auto ■ Home  
■ Business ■ Boat

**Call for a Free Estimate**

409 WEST 4TH ST. THE DALLES, OR 97058  
WWW.OTRIL.COM | 541-296-2395 | 1-800-886-3359

PROGRESSIVE Safeco

**Fuel your Mind, Stomach, and Vehicle in One Stop!**

- Full Service Oil Changes
- New and Used Tires
- Non-Ethanol Gas
- Propane

- Huckleberry Pancakes, Pies, and Milkshakes
- Ice cold beverages
- Full Menu

**Every Day is a Burger Day!**

2374 HWY 141 TROUT LAKE, WA · 509-395-2211  
**LOCATED AT THE TROUT LAKE Y**

**BLUE COLLAR CAFE**

Never leave hungry. We serve generous portions of homemade favorites in a cozy, friendly environment. We offer full menu options at all times because who doesn't like breakfast for dinner?

**22 Hughes Road, Carson  
Mon-Fri 9am to 8pm**

**Sat & Sun 8am-8pm  
509.427.4000**

Come kick back in Carson while you enjoy the gorge.

# REELING IN RULEBREAKERS



— by RaeLynn Ricarte  
for the Gorge Sportsman

It isn't just a matter of playing by the rules, it's about protecting resources to ensure that there are fish, fowl and game animals available to hunters and anglers for generations to come.

"If you take more than you are supposed to, it takes away from everyone else," said Oregon State Police Sgt. Andrew Vanderwerf.

That's the message he and his team are now delivering to anglers along the Columbia River from Bonneville Dam east to Arlington, and south in those counties.

"For the most part, the sportsmen out there are trying to do it right, but then there are the people who ruin it for everyone else," said Vanderwerf.

He manages six troopers; two in Hood River, three in The Dalles and one in Fossil.

"We have a huge area of responsibility and something going on year-round," said Vanderwerf. "We work really closely with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife."

In early June, he and two other team members were headed to Cascade Locks where salmon, steelhead and shad were running and a crowd of anglers was gathered along an old navigation lock.

There is no limit to the number of shad they can take, said Vanderwerf, but anglers can only catch two salmon or steelhead and there are rules for how they are reeled in.

ODFW's Angling Synopsis outlines the protocols for catching fish. Only fish hooked in the mouth may be retained. Hooked anywhere else and they have to be released unharmed.

Hatchery fish have a clipped adipose fin and wild stock, which are not clipped,

(continued on page 16)



A woman from the Umatilla Tribe using a dip net to scoop shad onto a platform over the old navigation lock in Cascade Locks. RaeLynn Ricarte photo

**DON'S GUN SHOP**



NEW & USED GUNS  
Buy . Sell . Trade . Gun Transfers . Reloading Equipment  
New Gun Orders

1010 12th St., Suite 'D' • Hood River  
Hours: Tue.-Sat 9am-5pm 541-386-GUNS (4867)  
dongunshop20@yahoo.com

**STOCKPILE SURVIVAL SHOP**



Outdoor and Preparedness Items  
Priced to Sell

**Huge Selection Mountain House Meals**  
Jet Boil Stoves & Fuel Canisters  
Goal Zero Solar and Much More

**Mention this ad for 10% OFF entire purchase**

406 E Second The Dalles  
Tue-Fri 10-5 • Sat 10-4 541-769-1045  
stockpilesurvivalshop@gmail.com

excluding any sale items





Tribal fishers from Umatilla talk with OSP Sgt. Andrew Vanderwerf about the day's catch during his foot patrol on the dock in Cascade Locks.

RaeLynn Ricarte photo

must be turned loose. Harvested salmon must be tagged immediately.

"The rules and regulations are in place to make sure they get upriver to spawn," said Vanderwerf.

Before leaving The Dalles, he was

briefed on an illegal deer kill by Senior Trooper Brent Ocheskey, who had the head and hide of the young buck in his truck.

It seemed the deer was grazing on fruit in a local orchard when a worker

shot him out of the belief the owner had a damage control permit to cover the kill.

Ocheskey said as soon as the foreman observed the worker bring the deer to the shop on a trailer, he called authorities to report the incident.

"He (worker) thought he was helping but he wasn't — he was doing something he wasn't supposed to do," said Ocheskey.

The worker was charged with unlawful take of a buck and his rifle seized. The meat from the deer will be given to a charitable organization to help needy families.

The head of the deer and rifle will remain in an evidence locker until the case has been adjudicated, said Vanderwerf.

He said fish seized from anglers using illegal methods are turned over to the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center to feed the raptors.

Adults must pay \$38 for a seasonal fishing license if they are an Oregon resident and \$97.50 if they are nonresident. Youth ages 12 to 17 can get a license for \$10 and children under that age fish for free.

Vanderwerf has been with OSP for 20 years and with the Fish and Wildlife Division for 10 years, counting time in Astoria, but he still gets surprised by the

**Largest flytying material selection in the Gorge!**

# FLYFISHING STRATEGIES

## Fly Shop

The Dalles, OR








## 42 Years Experience!

Flyfishing & flycasting lessons available.

Discounts available for groups!

**Paul Anderson-Owner**  
Cell- 509-930-4406

**109 E 2nd Street • 541-296-6997**  
**born2flyfish57@yahoo.com**  
**www.flyfishingstrategiesflyshop.com**

things people do that gets them in trouble. “The rules are available in ODFW’s synopsis or they can make a phone call (541-296-9646 for OSP), that’s all it takes to find out what you can do and can’t do, the info is always available,” he said. “Some people try to play it off that they just didn’t know what they were doing was a violation, but most of them do know.”

Two fishermen he encountered on Blackberry Beach just east of Cascade Locks ended up with a \$425 citation for fishing without an Oregon license. They told Vanderwerf that they held a license from Washington State – one lived in Battleground and the other in Vancouver — and thought it was also good for the Oregon side of the Columbia River.

Vanderwerf explained that they would have been okay to fish from a boat on the river but, once they set foot on the Oregon shoreline, they were subject to ODFW rules.

“It would have cost them \$19 for a one-day permit, they would have been much better off going that route,” he said.

After running their driver’s licenses from the computer in his truck to make sure neither man was the subject of a warrant, Vanderwerf printed off citations

and delivered the bad news.

“We don’t have any choice about this,” he said of the fine. “You might want to go ahead and get the one-day permit

---

“This time of year, it gets crazy ... you have more than you can deal with in a day and, at other times, everyone’s being compliant – and that’s what we want.”

---

because it will show the court that you tried to make it right. It might make a big difference.”

“Thank you, sir,” said one of the men, shaking Vanderwerf’s hand as they

packed up to go.

“If this is the worst you guys do, you’re doing good,” said the trooper.

Vanderwerf grew up in Warren and graduated from Scappoose High School in 1987. He decided to make a career out of law enforcement after serving eight years in the U.S. Coast Guard, with duty stations in Kodiak, Juneau and Winchester Bay in Alaska, and Astoria. He spent six years in the patrol division in La Grande and The Dalles. He spent four years as a sergeant on OSP’s SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) team before taking the fish and wildlife position in The Dalles. He found that traveling the state with SWAT took too much away from his family.

Vanderwerf and his wife, Lisa, have daughter and a son who is currently serving in the U.S. Army. They make their home in Hood River.

He is well-versed in defensive tactics with a no-nonsense personality, but has a calm manner of questioning people about their actions.

“You can be the biggest, baddest person out there, but there’s always someone bigger and badder,” he said. “You need to

*(continued on page 16)*



Sgt. Andrew Vanderwerf checks ODFW rules on the tailgate of his patrol vehicle as he checks the size of a jack salmon.

*Let us turn your wild game into delicious sausage!*



**Stop by Kramer’s Market and try some of the best home-cooked food around.**

*We sell Oregon hunting & fishing licenses*

- Hot Deli Sandwiches
- Burgers • Pizzas
- Roasted or Fried Chicken
- Dinner Specials Mon.-Fri.

**121 Main Street, Dufur, OR • 541-467-2455**



learn how to talk to people. I treat everyone with respect — how they should be treated — and I usually don't have a problem. For the most part, if you treat someone with respect, you are going to get respect back.”

An avid hunter and fisherman, Vanderwerf said his current job is a good fit — it allows him to get out from behind a desk and spend time in the great outdoors.

“What are you doing Tuesday? That's your day off right?” he asked Ocheskey during a lunch break after they spent a couple hours surveilling a crowd of anglers along the canal.

“Yeah, I'm off, what are you thinking?” asked Ocheskey.

“Let's go fishing,” said Vanderwerf.

“I might do that,” said Ocheskey.

The team, which also includes Trooper Justin Frazier, then resumed the watch that began that morning with Van-

derwerf working the dock and inspecting the take of anglers. He selected individuals to question based on incoming information from the other two officers, who were stationed out of sight and using high-powered binoculars to watch activity.

“We get so many complaints out here (Cascade Locks) that we need to be a presence pretty often,” said Vanderwerf.

Unlike patrol troopers who can easily spot a speed violator, there are sometimes only subtle signs on the rivers and byways to show fish and game troopers that someone is not following the rules.

“A common violation that we see is a fisherman hooking a shad in places other than the mouth and keeping it,” said Vanderwerf.

He said anglers sometimes attempt to disguise an extra line in a lake or backwater

*(continued on page 18)*

# Think you can't afford Hearing Aids on a Fixed Income?

## Now You Can

Hear's The Answer now rents Premium Hearing Aids on a month-to-month basis. Try it out FREE for one month. If you like it, you can rent a pair for as low as \$50 per month!

These are Top-of-the Line Hearing Aids worth over **\$7,000!**

Several plans available to choose from.

Everything comes with a 100% money back guarantee!



**Hear's The Answer HEARING CENTER**

608 E. Second Street, The Dalles, OR • 541-298-5558  
Mon -Thur 9-5p.m. & Friday 9-3p.m.

— Servicing the gorge since 1983 —



**Keith Howe, M.A.**  
Clinical Psychology  
Hearing Aid Specialist  
OR Hearing Society



Scanning the shoreline of the Columbia River is a regular practice of OSP Sgt. Andrew Vanderwerf and other members of the Fish & Wildlife team that monitors hunting and fishing activities in the Gorge, above. Facing page, Vanderwerf shows a local fisherman the rules regarding the size of a young salmon that can be kept during a check of his catch.

RaeLynn Ricarte photos



## Volunteers Needed!

*Do you enjoy the outdoors?  
Enjoy helping others?  
Like to take on new challenges?*

Please consider joining our Search and Rescue Team! No prior training/qualifications needed, we'll provide all the training you need.

Visit our website for more info: [www.wrsar.org](http://www.wrsar.org)  
E-mail: [windriversar@gmail.com](mailto:windriversar@gmail.com)

## The Gorge's Source for Suppressors

### We Offer:

- **Firearms Sales and Special Orders**
  - **FBI NICS Background Checks**
  - **Scope Mounting & Sighting**
    - **Custom Reloading**
- **Ammunition Sales**
- **WA Pistol Transfer**
- **Consignment Sales**
- **Firearms Accessories**



***A Federal Firearms Licensed Business***



Reloading, LLC.

**25A Mountain View Lane, Trout Lake, WA 98650**

**509-395-2166**

[reddogreloadingllc@gmail.com](mailto:reddogreloadingllc@gmail.com)

area by wrapping it around a submerged rock so it is not clearly visible from the surface.

On the Columbia, fishermen are continually reeling in shad, a large relative of the herring, that are used as a bait fish, although some people do eat them, said Vanderwerf.

He said it is important for troopers to document the activity they see because when he approaches the angler, it is likely that person will deny wrongdoing.

What law enforcement witnessed prior to the contact will become evidence in the case.

"This time of year, it gets crazy," said Vanderwerf. "Sometimes you have more than you can deal with in a day and, at other times, everyone's being compliant – and that's what we want."

The rules on the water, and in the field, can change every year so it is important for the team to stay abreast of modifications or new regulations. Vanderwerf said the manuals they refer to include ODFW's commercial fishing codes, criminal code of Oregon and the hunting and fishing regulations.

That information creates a six-inch stack of documents, something he enjoys

showing students during presentations at area schools.

"I ask them, 'Do you have homework?' and then I show them the manual and say, 'Well, this is our homework,'" he said.

Most of the cases that land on Vanderwerf's desk are complaints registered by citizens but the team tries to be proactive rather than reactive, setting out decoys to draw out poachers or hunters using illegal tactics.

"We do catch a lot of people but there's a lot more going on that we don't see," he said.

Fines for violators can top \$6,000, dependent upon the type of activity.

Vanderwerf said it has become a habit for him to always be scanning the landscape around him, even during his off hours.

When he sees people near the water in a secluded area, he immediately wants to investigate.

"It's hard to let it go but you do have to work to find balance in life," he said.

Vanderwerf asks that people report suspicious activity with wildlife or on habitat lands by calling the OSP tip line at 1-800-452-7888.



Sgt. Vanderwerf observes fishing activities at Blackberry Beach, just east of Cascade Locks. RaelLynn Ricarte photo

**Who Has the Lowest Prices on Outdoor Supplies In the Area?**

**Live Bait  
Fishing Supplies  
Camping Gear  
Snacks & Drinks  
Water  
Recreation  
Ammunition  
ODFW Lic. Agent**

**Stop By Today!**

**Fishing  
Hunting  
Camping**

102 East 1st Rufus, Oregon 97050  
Open 7 Days 541-739-2222

windmountainranch.com 503.360.4707

**WIND MOUNTAIN RANCH**  
established 1987

**THE PERFECT PLACE**  
for your next hike, fishing excursion, family retreat or weekend getaway to the Gorge!

# Fishing tips: Reeling in your fish

**C**asting bait near a submerged stump is a great idea, but if you don't know the tricks and turns of casting and reeling, you might lose your big catch. In shallow waters, reel the line in more rapidly, which reduces your chances of getting hooked on the bottom.

When you're fishing in deeper waters, it's always a good idea to let your bait sink for awhile before starting to reel in the line, as it serves no purpose to bring your bait in before it reaches the "strike zone".

Once you've got the basics mastered, begin to make jerky movements with your fishing rod as you progressively reel in your line.

This technique is the best way to imitate the erratic movements of prey in distress, which is what predator fish are looking for. Feeling that crucial strike is the ultimate experience for every sport fisherman.

When you get a bite, try and estimate how far the bait was from the bottom so you can target it again. Some fish are more likely to strike when your bait is near the surface, as they prefer to surprise their prey from underneath.

Other species, including several types of bottom-dwelling fish, are apt to nibble if you reel in slowly, letting your bait wriggle near the bottom. Let the bait be in contact with the bottom from time to time, and it will increase your chances of success.

It's not always where you cast your line that counts — sometimes it's how you reel it in.



## What Does Your Insurance Cover?



**Tony White**  
102 E. 2nd St Ste B  
The Dalles  
**541-370-2520**  
tony.white.ud31@statefarm.com

**State Farm**  
**Boaters insurance**  
covers more than just your boat

Auto  
Home  
Farm  
Life

State Farm  
Bloomington, IL

[www.myagenttonywhite.com](http://www.myagenttonywhite.com)

get to a better  
**State**

Family-owned for 50 years

### Trout Lake Grocery

Stop in for your  
**Hunting & Fishing Supplies**  
Get your Hunting & Fishing  
Licenses & Discover Passes here!

We specialize in buying and selling  
**Wild Huckleberries**

**2383 HWY 141**  
Trout Lake, WA (509) 395-2777

# Karrie Cantrell:

‘It’s cool to hunt  
as a woman’



— by Trisha Walker  
Hood River News

Hood River resident Karrie Cantrell has several good — and perhaps lucky — hunting stories since beginning the sport in 2009, but her best is of her 2015 hunt, when she and friend Janohn Benefield were out by themselves in the Hood Unit. Cantrell spotted a huge buck — a five by four, 275 pounds — but missed her shot.

That’s not where the story ends, of course. On closing day, the two went back to the same spot, not expecting to

see anything.

“I thought, ‘There’s no way that deer is going to be there. I already shot there and probably scared everything away,’” Cantrell said. “But sure enough, it was there.

“I got out and sited it in, and shot — and I actually got it,” she said. “You would have thought somebody got murdered in the woods (there was so much screaming) — it was me and my girlfriend, and we got a deer by ourselves. It was amazing. It was a really great experience.”

An added bonus was that her deer was larger than any of the guys’ in their party.

“It’s cool to hunt as a woman, because I can get meat, too. I’m just as good as the men,” she said.

Although the sport wasn’t new to her, Cantrell’s interest in hunting began after meeting her husband, Chuck Cantrell.

“All my friends and my husband — that’s what they all did, and I wanted to experience something they do,” she said. “The first time I did it, I got a huge

*(continued on page 22)*



Janohn Benefield, left, with her deer; Chloe Cantrell, above, with her first buck in 2015; Karrie Cantrell and Benefield; Cantrell. Contributed photos





**SHORTT  
SUPPLY**

HOOD RIVER

**For all your hunting  
and fishing needs**

### Hunter & Outdoor Checklist

- Navigation (map & compass)
- Sun Protection (sunglasses & sunscreen)
- Insulation (extra clothing)
- Illumination (Headlamp/flashlight)
- First Aid Kit
- Firestarter
- Multi-tool
- Nutrition (extra food)
- Hydration (extra Water)
- Emergency shelter

**Check off  
5 or more  
necessities  
in our store  
and get a**

# 10% DISCOUNT

#### WE CARRY:

**MEN'S & WOMEN'S OUTDOOR APPAREL and FOOTWEAR**

**KNIVES and MULTI PURPOSE TOOLS**

**HEADLAMPS**

**EASY-TO-PACK MEALS**

**HYDRATION**

**BACKPACKS**

**LIGHTWEIGHT and FOLDABLE TREKKING POLES**

**COMPACT COOK & DINNERWARE**

116 OAK STREET • 541-386-5474  
DOWNTOWN HOOD RIVER

buck that year, and then I was hooked.”

Her first season, she went out on opening day with her husband and Benefield ... and got a 350-pound buck. And while walking towards her kill, “another deer came out and Janohn shoots the deer as it’s running up the hill, so we both got our deer on opening day,” she said. “We put both deer in our Ranger, two chicks who got their deer the first day. We earned bragging rights!”

Since that first season, Cantrell and seven other women have “girl camp” each year (minus the actual camping) — they get together and hunt the same place, driving ATVs and hanging out.

“It’s always a great time,” she said. “We have so much fun going up, packing coolers of snacks and talking ... and trying to find everyone each their own (deer). We look forward to it.

“It’s all about friends and family, and enjoying the outdoors,” she added.

The Cantrells have two daughters, Chloe, 15, and Briana, 12, and both are also into the sport.

“Chloe hunted her first year in 2015, and she got her first buck, so she’s gotten into it,” Cantrell said. “We’ve had pretty good luck.

“We’re just now getting Briana into it,” Cantrell said. “She’s taking hunter safety so she can go hunting also.”

## Choose your bait

— story courtesy ODFW

In Oregon, some water bodies allow the use of bait and others are restricted to artificial flies and lures. Be sure to check the regulations before you go fishing.

Bait includes worms, salmon eggs, crickets and grasshoppers, and dough-like baits (such as PowerBait). “Bait” also includes soft plastic or rubber imitations of worms or eggs, or other rubber or soft plastic imitations.

Popular trout baits include PowerBait, Pautzkes Balls O’ Fire salmon eggs, and night-

crawlers.

The use of live minnows or other live bait is illegal in Oregon.

Artificial flies and lures include spinners, spoons, jigs and hard-plastic imitations of minnows, leeches other favorite trout foods.

Popular trout lures include spinners such as Rooster Tails, Panther Martins and Blue Foxes (1/8 and 1/16 ounce size) and spoons such as Kastmasters, Krocodiles and Dick Nites in smaller sizes.



## Jons Mobile Marine Repair

### 503-867-6718

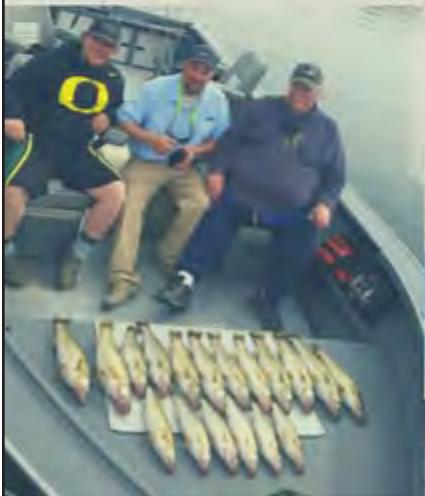
**PROFESSIONAL**  
— onsite boat repair —  
serving the entire Columbia Gorge

# 50' Doherty Outfitters

*Fish The Mid  
Columbia*

541-571-3933

brycetailordoherty@live.com



- Fully licensed and Insured
- Top of the line equipment
- Tackle & bait included
- 8 hour trips \$150
- 4 hour trips \$125
- Salmon, Steelhead, Sturgeon, Walleye



**RAD POWER BIKES**



THE RADROVER IS THE ULTIMATE  
**ALL-PURPOSE ELECTRIC BIKE**  
THAT STILL LOOKS LIKE A BIKE  
BUT FEELS LIKE A JET.

GET OUT, GO FURTHER,  
AND HAVE MORE FUN FOR  
**UNDER \$1,500!**

RadPowerBikes.com  
info@radpowerbikes.com  
(800) 939-0310

THE GORGE  
SPORTSMAN

Brag  
Board  
2017



Brad Robins



Greg Simpson & Beth Flem



Mike Garrett



Kyle Zuercher



Bob Lindsay

Not  
just  
another  
fish  
story . . .



Killie and her fish



Taylor Routson



Jesse Flem



Tanya Lindsey



James Gannon



Lanni Zuercher



Erik Flory



Michael McConville



Chase Flory



Ryan Flory



Sarah Routson



Napua Wampler



Joleen Wampler



Joe Wampler, Joleen Wampler, Miles and Honey

# Brag Board 2017



Greg Simpson



Madison Richards



Eric Blumenthal



Alexis Flory



Lanni & Kyle Zuercher



Michael McConville

Send your Brag Board photos to:  
[tflory@thedalleschronicle.com](mailto:tflory@thedalleschronicle.com)  
[jthompson@hoodrivernews.com](mailto:jthompson@hoodrivernews.com)

# THE CALL OF THE WILD



Chris Odell of The Dalles is pictured with decoys and predator calls, tools he's used in his years of hunting.

Neita Cecil photo

## *Electronic calls, decoys, and other ways to lure game*

— by Neita Cecil  
for the Gorge Sportsman

**T**he call of the wild can take many forms, at least for the dedicated hunter.

Chris Odell of The Dalles has been hunting since he was a kid, and an indispensable part of his tool kit, along with patience, is a variety of animal calls.

Odell has about 15 of them, he estimates, from fancy electronic calls to simply blowing on his hand to mimic a distressed squirrel.

He demonstrated the noisy call, then explained, "That's a squirrel that's got his tail caught in the door. You have to show emotion with your call, make the sound stressful. With hand calls, like if you're hunting bear, you have to call continu-

ously, that's why an electronic call might be easier for you, because if you stop calling, the bear stops coming and will lose interest very fast."

An animal in distress will continually yowl, he said. "You can call turkeys, elk, deer, you can call antelope. All you have to do is learn how to mimic their sounds."

When the pitch of his voice dropped as he grew up, he wasn't able to make certain calls anymore. "I used to be able to howl, I could get coyotes to howl."

Calls have also become important tools in the hunting of bear and cougar, since state law bans using bait or dogs to hunt them. "There's getting to be an abundance of them and predator calling is the way to go," he said. "With patience and persistence, you can be successful."

A predator call is using an animal distress sound or a curiosity sound to get an animal's attention and draw them to you.

Other common calls are for fawns or elk in distress. It's a harsh reality, but predators are "coming looking to eat those," he said.

Any kind of distress call will work, but the bigger the distress animal, the bigger type of critter you're going to call, he said.

His favorite call story was the time he called a cougar in and it came to within 15 feet of him before he shot it with his backup pistol. "I missed with a muzzle loader and the cougar still sat there and I shot it with a little .357."

He said, "the adrenaline rush is unreal. I recommend not going by yourself, especially if you're going to be calling bears or cougars, because they're coming

to eat. And always let somebody know where you're going."

Like any hunter, he has lots of secret spots where he reliably sees game. "It's quite an adrenaline rush to have a bear come up right behind you and whuff at the back of you and then run away because he smelled you."

He said it's important to watch the predator. "Don't just throw up and shoot, make sure you know what it is. You don't want to kill a momma with babies."

If you don't want to shoot them, "just stand up, turn your call off and just start yelling and screaming at them, and they'll run away. If they don't, you walk very slowly back-

wards and keep an eye on them. Chances are they'll run away."

He's had to chase off critters when the wrong animal showed up. He called in a momma bear and her cub while turkey hunting once. "I stood up instantly, I started yelling and screaming, the cub ran up a tree and the sow was swaying back and forth."

As soon as the sow stopped advancing, he walked away, keeping his eye on her at all times. He backed off far enough to where she couldn't see him, and she felt comfortable. "And the baby came down the tree and they went about their day and I was able to get my turkey decoys back."

*(continued on page 30)*



A wealth of hunting calls have been used over the years, from bugle-style horn with a reed, below, to the vintage Mallard call above. At left is a quail call. Most hunters modify the sound of their call with their hands.



Odell likes electronic calls, which he said “are nicer because you can set the call away from you and the animal is concentrated on that instead of using a mouth call, where they’re looking straight at you.”

He sets electronic calls about 50 to 60 yards in front of him. He manages not to lose it, he said, by the simple feat of remembering where you put it.”

For archery equipment, he sets it about 20 to 30 yards away. He prefers a crosswind, since they’re coming from downwind. “Sometimes they will come running straight in, but most times they will come circle around what they can hear, and they’ll want to confirm it with their nose. You can fool their eyes and their ears, but you can never fool their nose.”

An important part of using a call is to know the field of view. “As long as you can see around where you’re calling, that’s a major thing too.”

He encouraged people to take kids hunting, “it’s a good experience because you actually call in non-target wildlife also, and see how they react. And you’re out in nature.”

When he’s using something other than his own voice to call animals in, he

sometimes has to give a loud “hey!” to make them stop and look. “All the critters come in different. A cougar will sneak in on you, a bear will come running in, a

---

**“All the critters come in different. A cougar will sneak in on you, a bear will come running in, a coyote will look for awhile – bobcat the same, will sneak in.”**

---

coyote will look for awhile – bobcat the same, will sneak in.”

What works most consistently across species is a fawn in distress, he said. The sound it makes, he said, is “a squall.”

His favorite calls are his coyote howler “and the back of my hand.”

He doesn’t just use tools that produce sound. He also uses a HECS suit, an Oregon-made suit that sells for about \$150 and eliminates your electromagnetic field. “Animals sense it. Your muscles twitching, whatever, you let out a magnetic pulse and they sense an electric pulse, but with that suit on it’s amazing how close animals will come to you, as long as they don’t smell you.”

He camouflages his hands and face to match his surroundings, and moves very slowly, “your eyes first, and then your head.”

Motion decoys are available for small predators such as coyote, raccoon and bobcat, but for big game like cougar and bear, you cannot use an electronic motion decoy, by law, he said. A furbearer’s license is needed to hunt raccoon, bobcat and fox, but he doesn’t have one. “I don’t shoot bobcats, and raccoons are greasy.”

He’s tried every meat he’s hunted, excluding gray diggers.

He hunts all year long, “just to be in the woods. You don’t have to kill something to have a good time.”

And his advice for the windy days? “Just go fishing,” he said.

**GORGE FLY SHOP**  
**25 YEARS**  
TOP NOTCH SERVICE AND EXPERTISE



**HOOD RIVER, OR**  
Downtown 201 Oak St.  
CALL NOW: 541.386.6977  
“Fly fish the World with us”  
WWW.GORGEFLYSHOP.COM

*For all of your*  
**Hunting and Fishing Needs**

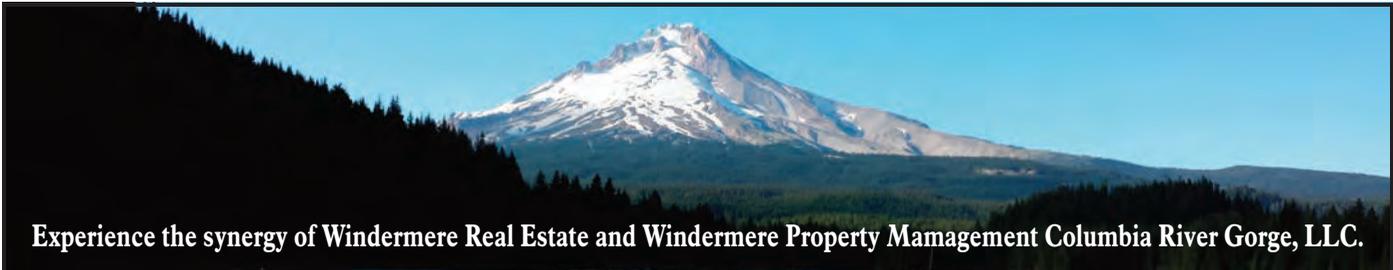


**The Dalles**  
541-298-8139

**Biggs Jct.**  
541-739-2236

ODFW Tags and Licenses  
Deschutes Boaters Passes • Fishing Tackle  
Bait • Fresh Deli Sandwiches • Bags of Ice  
Full Hot Case Deli • Cold Beer • Snacks

**Fast and Friendly Service**



Experience the synergy of Windermere Real Estate and Windermere Property Management Columbia River Gorge, LLC.

# BUY, SELL, RENT, INVEST

## All your real estate services now under one roof!

  
**Windermere**  
REAL ESTATE  
Windermere/Glenn Taylor Real Estate  
Windermere.com

A collaborative team of industry professionals, a full support staff and a focused ownership and management team.

  
**Windermere**  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
Columbia River Gorge, LLC  
541-386-RENT

**Hood River**  
504 Cascade Ave.  
315 Oak Street  
541-386-3444

**Bingen**  
106 W Steuben  
509-493-4666

**Stevenson**  
220 SW 2nd Street  
509-427-2777

**The Dalles**  
122 E. 2nd Street  
541-298-4451

  
**Windermere**  
REAL ESTATE

---

HOOD RIVER · BINGEN  
STEVENSON · THE DALLES

---



*“We couldn’t ask for a better realtor. Thank you Carrie!!!!”*

J. May ~ 2016

**Carrie Guthrie**, OR Broker  
Office 541-298-4451 • Cell 541-993-3210  
carrieguthrie@windermere.com  
www.carrieguthrie.com

  
**Windermere**  
REAL ESTATE

---

HOOD RIVER · BINGEN  
STEVENSON · THE DALLES

---



*“Don’t Just Play in The Gorge, Live in The Gorge!”*

**Tanner Hall**, Realtor, Licensed in WA  
Bingen Office 503-936-8985 • 509-493-4666  
Tanner.hall@windermere.com



# BOYHOOD MEMORIES

— by "Carcajou" Cliff Elliott  
for the Gorge Sportsman



"I miss the Hood River I grew up in."

I saw that on a bumper recently. Having grown up in Parkdale and spent 65 years in the valley, I'm sure that I'm not alone echoing the same sentiments. That's okay, maybe there are those who will change Hood River but they can't take away my memories.

I remember Clear Creek before they

trout, and Dolly Varden (bull trout), some so big that they barely fit in a large skillet. One of my fondest memories was camping at Wahtum Lake. My father worked at Dee Mill (four generations of my family worked there at one time

built Laurance Lake. Old growth red cedar trees so big that you could park a pick-up on the stump, a large forest, all gone. Native cutthroat

or another), and could leave the lake in the morning and be at work in less than a half hour. After work, he would come back and spend the night. We stayed for a week or better at times and never saw anyone else. Today it's hard to find a spot to park most days. I still know a couple spots where I can camp and fish and not see a soul for several days ... but I'm keeping that to myself.

I grew up a child of the '50s, and I'm quite sure that it comes as no surprise that Davy Crockett was one of my

**With the recreational season in full swing, the Hood River County Fire Service asks that you be fire smart. Fire conditions in the Columbia Gorge are still above average due to tall grass and brush. Please be mindful when enjoying the outdoors and help keep our forestlands green.**

**TAYLOR AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE**

Serving customers and the cars they drive since 1995.

541.386.3333  
taylorautomotiveonline.com

heroes. As a boy, my playground was the five-mile stretch of the East Fork of the Hood River from the Woodworth bridge all the way to the bridge at Trout Creek.

On any given day, when not in school, my brother, friends and I would take off in the morning, and as long as our chores were done, and we were home in time for dinner, all was well.

We learned to respect property, to close any gates we passed through, and not vandalize the belongings of others. As we matured, we went from BB guns to .22s, always with the requisite training. Never point it at any creature you don't intend to eat, and always know what's behind your target (houses etc.), to name just a couple.

From a young age, I was always infatuated by all things Native American, which shows in my love of the woods and my buckskin attire. I wanted moccasins and such but didn't know where to get them. Thanks to a vivid imagination, and lots of trial and error, I acquired the skills needed to make my own.

Now that I'm retired I still roam the mountains, often in my memories. I fill a lot of my time making and selling moccasins and other crafts. I make moccasins in several styles, and can make all sizes.

For hunting and stalking game, I have found the knee high boot moccasin to be an all-around good fit, as well as quiet in the driest of weather. These work well for bow hunting, where a person needs to be stealthy. I really love moccasins in the woods because you can feel what you are stepping on and can adjust your weight and snap fewer twigs and thus move quieter. Plus, they are very comfortable.

I have also developed the art of making custom, made to order, fur hats. I started out years ago with a bobcat pelt a guy was going to discard and from there went on to specialize in beaver, badger, coyote, fox and even possum (which, by the way, makes a surprisingly nice hat). My hats are silk lined, and even if you had a professionally tanned pelt and you wanted a hat made from it that can be arranged. I enjoy attending the various rendezvous and black powder shoots around the Northwest where I find like-minded folks who as it turns out are often interested in my wares.

I also have a website, [www.carcajou-originals.com](http://www.carcajou-originals.com), where I sell worldwide. If a person is curious about what I make



and wants additional information, I can be reached at 541-354-6289 or 541-399-0372. I'd love to answer any questions you might have.

To answer an often-asked question: no, I'm not a trapper, nor do I tan hides, much to the relief of my long-suffering wife. I always tell people who ask that

if I brought home a dead animal that my wife couldn't eat she would most likely club me with it and throw me out the door. Although she is a very darling person, don't get me wrong. I buy all of

*(continued on page 34)*

**Mt. HOOD TAXIDERMY**  
541-490-2179  
5500 NEAL CREEK RD | HOOD RIVER, OR

European • Shoulder • Lifesize • Domestic  
Exotic • Birds • Pelts & Rugs • Tanning

2917 E. 2nd THE DALLES, OR.

Ron Carter, Owner      Linda Pellissier, Manager

- Wide Variety of Ammunition
- New & used Firearms
- Accessories
- Re-loading supplies
- Game Licenses

**FLOYD'S GUNPARTS**

**Gunsmithing & Gun Parts**  
Floyd Baskins & Robin Olds- Gunsmiths  
Find us inside Old Mill Bargain Center  
**(541) 296-6706**



"Carcajou" Cliff Elliott makes hand-sewn gear from professionally tanned furs, using designs he has tested over the years. Contributed photos



my professionally tanned furs online from legal, reputable sources. My work is all hand-sewn and has been personally tested over the years and will stand up to most any mountain conditions.

Some of you may remember "Cascade" George Mason who lived on Trout Creek Ridge and trapped the Middle Fork of the Hood River until his death

in 1991. He was my good friend and a master trapper. The lynx paw medicine bags shown here are of his original design. (His were bobcat.) After his passing, I looked at the one he gave me and thought myself, "It's a shame to let this beautiful design die with him." So in memory of my friend, I have taken it upon myself to carry on. The only change

that I made was to add a small knife to the reverse side. In addition to fitting in nicely with my mountain outfit, I find the medicine bag to be very handy for carrying ear plugs for hearing protection when I shoot, flints for my rifle, cash, etc. Also there is always a knife within reach around camp, out fishing, or wherever you might need one.

Well, this is not the Hood River I grew up in, yet I'm still not sure I could be happy anywhere else. This is still home!

**Get your truck ready for the trek with Expertec**



**\$25<sup>95</sup> Oil Change**  
+ 23 Point Safety Inspection

Includes up to 5 qts oil. Diesel & Synthetic Oil changes at additional charge. Expires 10/18/17.

- Oil changes • Tune-ups
- Trailer hitch installation
- Transmission flush
- Brakes • Alignments



L to R: Ted, Jerry, Rick, Steve, Benny, Sam, Missy & Gordon  
**1802 B 12th Street** across from Posauers  
 Call 541-436-2545 for appointment



**Kodiak  
Bones & Bugs  
Taxidermy**  
*Est. 2007*

**Specializing in**

-  Sales of pest-free Dermestid Beetles and customer "Tech Support"
-  Preparation of display-quality trophy European mounts using Dermestids

**Lyle, Washington 98635  
907-942-BUGS (2847)**

kodiakbonesandbugs@gmail.com  
www.bonesandbugs.com

**Carcajou  
Originals**



Maker of fine fur hats, shooting bags and mountain products

"Carcajou" Cliff Elliott  
 PO Box 523  
 Odell, OR 97044  
 (541) 399-0372 cell  
 email: cliff\_s\_elliott@yahoo.com [www.CarcajouOriginals.com](http://www.CarcajouOriginals.com)



Black powder rifle, leather and fur are a perfect fit for "Carcajou" Cliff Elliott of Hood River.

Contributed photo

# Reel in the savings

## on all your hunting, fishing and camping essentials!

# Walmart

Save money. Live better.

2700 Wasco Avenue | Hood River | 541-387-2300

HOURS 6 am - 12 am

\*Oregon Hunting and Fishing Licenses available in store

# Gorge enjoys a bounty of fishing options



— by Andrew Perrault  
for the Gorge Sportsman

Hood River and the Columbia River Gorge are famous for the abundance and quality of outdoor activities available. From wind sports to kayaking, hiking to mountain biking, the possibilities are enough to keep anyone busy for a summer or a lifetime. But for those of us that use a fly rod to seek the tug of a fish, we know that fishing in the Gorge is as good as it gets, anywhere.

Salmon and steelhead get most of the attention, and for good reason. The

Columbia River had historically been home to up to 30 million sea-run, or anadromous, fish every year. This was the biggest run of fish on the planet.

While the good ole' days are gone, the Columbia River and its tributaries still see strong runs of salmon and steelhead in the range of 1-2 million per year. This can draw anglers from around the globe chasing these big fish. One of the most impressive considerations is that we can fish for steelhead year-round in the area. A feat which is not easily found anywhere else in North America. Winter and summer steelhead runs overlap each other in

the Gorge, and anglers often catch both in one day in the late fall or springtime.

Fly fishermen like us generally prefer to chase steelhead (sea-run rainbow trout) over salmon. They are more apt to take a fly and tend to preform acrobatics and long runs when hooked. The Deschutes River has been widely known as one of the best summer steelhead streams in the world, while the Klickitat can often rival the mighty Deschutes in scenery and productivity.

But the real bounty of fishing in the Gorge is the diversity of fishing options. Trout fishing is nearly endless, bass

fishing is fantastic and rarely exploited, and the American Shad offer a very fun, easy option during the early part of the summer.

Hundreds of lakes scatter the area around the Gorge, and most of them are full of hungry trout. Some are well-known like Goose Lake and Lost Lake, but hundreds of others rarely see anglers. Many require a little hiking to get to, but the seclusion, scenery are worth every step, while catching scrappy little brook, brown, cutthroat or rainbow trout is a bonus reward.

Famous hikes like Punch-bowl Falls and Multnomah Falls are often overlooked for the healthy populations of cutthroat trout that await determined anglers. While those famous landmarks can see thousands of tourists per day, it is rare to find anyone brave enough to venture upstream with rod in hand to pluck trout from behind

every big rock. Plus there are dozens of streams not nearly as well-known with just as many eager fish.

For those that prefer to stick to the lower elevations around the Gorge, we have a treat. Smallmouth bass fishing on the fly is about as fun as it gets, and the Columbia River is one of the most productive smallmouth fisheries in America. While this is not a secret to the serious bass addicts, fly anglers have not caught on yet. We rarely, if ever find anyone else with a fly rod chasing the bronze beasts that can top 5 pounds, take a fly with ease and often give a good jump or two.

Within a two hour drive of Hood River, an angler determined to hit a different area every weekend could literally never get to all of the area's viable fisheries in their lifetime. Come see us at Big Y Fly Co. and we will point you in the right direction for your fishing adventure.



The Columbia River Gorge offers a lifetime-supply of fishing opportunities, from mountain streams to the Columbia River. Contributed photo/Big Y Fly Co.

# TURN IN POACHERS

## Report Wildlife and Habitat Violations



TIPS Can Remain Anonymous



## Call 1-800-452-7888 or Dial \*OSP (\*677)

# Talking Turkey

Most turkey hunting is done in the spring when male turkeys (toms) are displaying to female turkeys (hens) in a bid to become their mate.

Fall hunting is a bit different than spring hunting because the birds are gathering for the upcoming winter months. They are generally just feeding and moving throughout the day.

Hunting turkey during the fall is similar to hunting deer.

Turkeys are generally in larger flocks made up of hens and their offspring or smaller groups of toms. Look for travel corridors and feeding areas that the birds are using. Set up on travel routes between the roost tree and the feeding area.

Sometimes you can coax hens closer to your ambush point by using

some soft hen calls and juvenile turkey 'kee kees'. Listen to the birds and imitate the calls they are making.

## SETTING UP

Set up your blind or find a location to easily conceal yourself. Look for meadows or small openings in areas with a lot of food.

It is recommended to sit with your back to a tree, stump, or hill side to protect you from another hunter. Then use your turkey call to draw in the birds.

## FEEDING HABITS

Wild turkeys will eat just about anything that provides them with nutrition. They will eat fresh green vegetation, seeds, fruit, invertebrates,

plants, and sometimes small lizards or frogs. A field full of grasshoppers in turkey country is sure to attract

birds. Turkeys feed right after flying down from the roost in the early morning and in the evening.

## TRACKS

Turkey tracks can be found in snow, soft mud, or light dirt areas. Their track is very distinctive. It is about four inches long, characterized by three long toes that face forward, and one little toe that faces back, about one inch. The middle toe of the hen is smaller (less than 2 ½ inches) than a mature tom (more than 2 ½ inches). When strutting, toms will also leave wing drag marks.



**Some of  
the best  
Fish Stories  
are true**



Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Great Getaways and Fish Washington webpages showcase some of the state's best travel and fishing opportunities.

[wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/washington/](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/washington/)

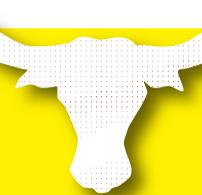
# BOB'S TEXAS T-BONE RESTAURANT & BARBECUE

I-84, EXIT 109  
RUFUS, OR

(541) 739-2559

FROSTY'S  
LOUNGE  
CATERING

BANQUET  
FACILITIES  
AVAILABLE



**FRESH FISH CAUGHT DAILY!**

**BRIGHAM FISH MARKET**  
CASCADE LOCKS, OREGON

681 WaNaPa St.  
Cascade Locks, OR  
(541) 374-9340  
www.brighamfish.com

NATIVE OWNED

Supporting the unmatched  
*adventure*  
of the Pacific Northwest!

Camping . Hunting . Fishing  
Boating & Tailgating

**Windmaster Market**

1650 Tucker Rd, Hood River  
(541) 386-4499  
Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**SPORTSMAN'S WAREHOUSE**  
AMERICA'S PREMIER OUTFITTER

HUNTING FISHING CAMPING RELOADING CLOTHING FOOTWEAR

GEAR UP FOR ALL YOUR FISHING & HUNTING  
**ADVENTURES**

**\$50 OFF** A PURCHASE OF \$250 OR MORE.

Expires Sep 30th, 2017

4 00010 32477 4

Not valid on Clearance, Licenses or Gift Cards. Not redeemable for cash, license or gift card. Cannot be combined with other discounts or offers. One coupon per transaction, per customer, per day. Must present this coupon at time of transaction. Must present Original coupon / No photo copies will be accepted

PORTLAND • 9401 SE 82ND AVE • 503-777-8700  
VANCOUVER • 11505 NE FOURTH PLAIN RD • 360-604-8000  
KELSO • 321 THREE RIVERS DR • 360-423-2600  
HILLSBORO • 18645 NW TANASBOURNE DR • 503-844-9100



# Long range hunting about challenge — and patience

— by *Trisha Walker*  
Hood River News

Lyle Henage took up long range hunting five years ago, and, while he's seen success, what attracted him to the sport, and keeps him coming back each year, is the challenge.

"Long range hunting is about having the right equipment and patience and diligence to not just touch the trigger," he said.

"It's a way to really be able to judge animals," he added. "I hunt with binoculars and decide which animal I want. There's no reason to get in a hurry. You've got a number of days, and if you don't harvest the animal that you want, why would you harvest an animal?"

This type of hunting is generally a team sport, he said, another aspect he enjoys.

"You have a shooter and a caller. Quite honestly, I get more of a thrill after calling the shots. You have to do a little calculation to shoot that far."

In April 2016, he helped his daughter Brandi Fletcher and partner Kirk Jespersen hunt bear — and both had success.

Henage generally scouts his go-to area, located in the White River Unit, for "easily three weeks" prior. Because bears become more active the greener it gets,



Lyle Henage and his hunting party with a bear shot by daughter Brandi Fletcher.

*Contributed photo*

the number of bear he saw each evening gradually increased.

"I had her come up the last five nights," he said. "We were glassing anywhere from 450 yards to somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,900 yards — sows with cubs and big ol' boars, and picking the bear we felt was the one we wanted to harvest."

They'd passed on the same bear the

day before because it didn't present a clean shot.

"When you're shooting those distances, the animal has to present, or it's not an ethical kill. We don't touch trigger," he said.

The next evening, at around 4 p.m., the bear again came into range.

"We watched him walk all the way up this ridge, going up a hog's back. At this point, I had ranged the top of the hog's back to 861 actual yardage," he said.

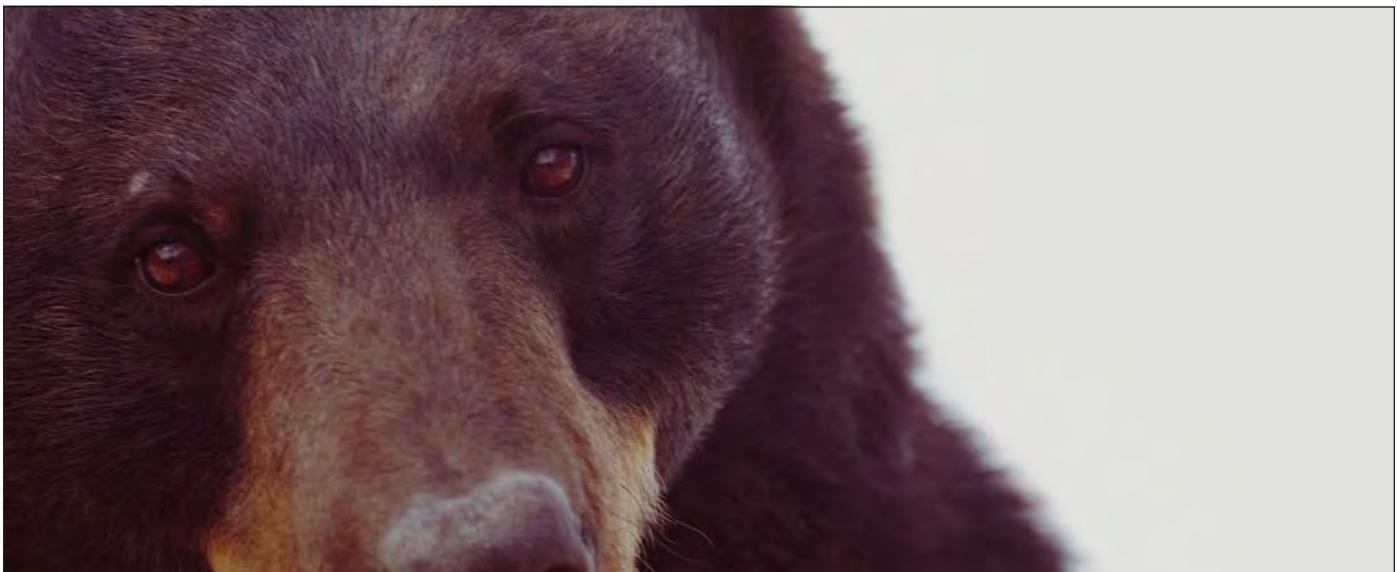
Once the bear reached the top of the hill, Henage rechecked the distance and the wind, and they adjusted Fletcher's scope to 860 yards.

"I told her to take the shot. She told me she was on it ... she touched the trigger. At that distance, it takes a while before you hear it. The bear dropped dead immediately and a couple of seconds later, we heard the gun go off.

"I don't know 10 people who can do that (at that range)," he said. "It was a phenomenal shot.

"That was quite exciting, and a relatively easy pack downhill," he added. "Four days later, we did it again with our partner (Jespersen)."

On this particular day, Henage and Jespersen had gotten to the site at 4 p.m. to set up. By 5:30 p.m., they'd found their bear — about 2,000 yards away.





But they ranged a rock Henage thought the bear would be coming to at 1,000 yards.

"When the bear came out, it came out at the top part of the rock, which read 1,028 (yards)," he said. "This time, we had a three and a half-mile an hour south wind. So long story short, I got him set up, the bear came out — it was feeding there, so it wasn't going anywhere.

"... I explained to him that this is a pretty long shot. I ranged it again ... set it at 1,028 and told him to fire, and that was without a doubt the coolest damn thing I've ever seen. I could actually see the bullet trail through my binoculars. It looked like quicksilver, this floating cloud. I watched the bullet hit the bear in the high shoulder and drop it dead. Not a twitch or a kick, nothing. Never knew what happened.

"To me, if you're going to take a life, that's the most ethical way to do it."

The shot was just the beginning, though — the bear was 325 pounds and a long way up. They'd finally packed it out at 3:30 a.m.

"Hands down, that was the hardest pack I've ever made," Henage said. "We brought him out whole so we could brag to our buddies."

Henage believes that long range hunting is one of the most ethical ways to hunt an animal, be it bear or elk.

"We travel short distances and sit on a ridge, and spend hours and hours and

hours and days behind glass," he said. "To find five to 17 bears a night is nothing. You literally get an opportunity to judge these bears, to look at them and make sure there's no cubs. To me, it's incredibly ethical and incredibly educating — you have to learn how to judge bears. I've never touched an animal that I haven't looked at four times prior before deciding that's the one you want."

Learning to judge an animal is an important part of hunting, he said. He passed on filling his bear tag this spring and last because the one he wanted — a cinnamon bear — never presented itself.

"For me, a trophy is a trophy to the person who picks it," he said. "With bears, everyone wants a big one, but you have to look at how far the belly is from the ground, if the legs look nice and thick.

"The biggest tell is their ears — never shoot a bear with ears that point up. Its ears start to go sideways, the bigger the bear. I've got a 325-full body mount and his ears are sticking out on the sides of his head. Also, look at the coat, whether they're rubbing all their hair off.

Even though we're going to eat this animal, we want to have mounts. We want a nice coat, and we want it to look pretty — nice long hair, color.

"You have to be willing to go through a hunting season and not get an animal," he added. "You get to be very selective."

# MAHINDRA'S INVENTORY CLEARANCE SALE



**GET UP TO \$1600\* CASH BACK PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$300 OFF SELECT UNITS**



3002 E 2ND ST.  
THE DALLES, OR 97058  
(Located behind Big Jim's)

\*For a limited time only. With approved credit. Program restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. All offers expire August 31, 2017.

**Mahindra**  
Tractors



5605 MILLER ROAD, PARKDALE, OR 97041  
 541.352.6322 • MOUNTAINVALLEYMEAT@HOTMAIL.COM



LtoR: Martha, Elian, Eufrasia, Rylen, Toria (owner), Zayleah, Jason (owner), Wyatt, Ricardo, Lane, Roberto and Gordo.

From field to fork, call us for all your custom cutting, curing & smoking, and slaughtering needs for your livestock and game.

- LOCKER BEEF • LOCKER PORK •
- SPECIAL MEAT ORDERS •

Custom curing and smoking includes:

- Pepperoni sticks
- Bear dogs
- Jerky
- Bratworsts
- Summer Sausage
- Salami
- Thuringer
- Whole turkeys
- Hams
- Prime Rib

And MORE!

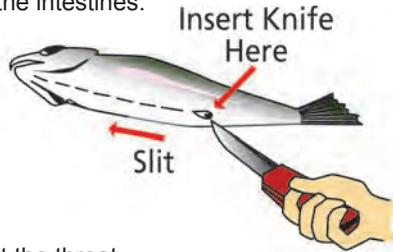
Smoked whole BBQ pigs  
 for any special event!



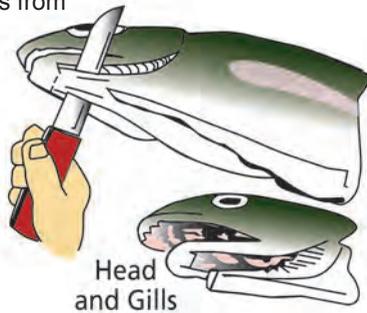
FIND US ON FACEBOOK

# Fishing tips: How to clean your catch

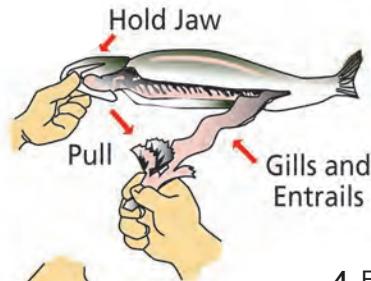
1. Rinse the slime off the fish, lay it on a cutting board, and insert the knife tip into the fish's anus. You can use a small towel to help get a secure grip on the fish as you're cleaning it. Cut upward along the belly to the head. Keep the knife blade shallow so you don't puncture the intestines.



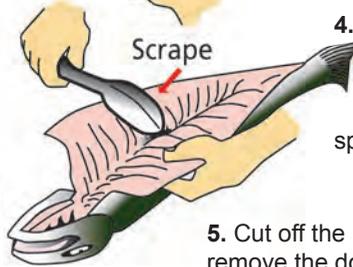
2. Make a cut at the throat to separate the gills from the head.



3. Spread the body open and remove the gills and entrails.



4. Fish have a kidney along the length of the backbone. Scrape it out with a spoon or your thumbnail.



5. Cut off the head; if desired, and remove the dorsal fin. Rinse the fish in cold, clean water and keep the fish cool until ready to prepare.



— information courtesy ODFW

## Best Tire Value PROMISE

WITH EVERY PASSENGER & LIGHT TRUCK TIRE PURCHASE

Whatever the road throws at you – from potholes to nails – any road hazard, our FREE GUARANTEE protects you



Doing the right thing matters.  
www.LesSchwab.com

### Peace of Mind Tire Protection

- If a Tire is Damaged Beyond Repair, We'll Replace its Value
- Our Work is Guaranteed for the Life of Your Tires
- Free Pre-Trip Safety Checks

### Lifetime Tire & Mileage Care

- Free Flat Tire Repairs
- Free Tire Rotations
- Free Tire Rebalancing
- Free Air Checks
- Free Brake & Alignment Checks
- Hundreds of Locations to Serve You



OVER 450 LOCATIONS  
THROUGHOUT THE WEST!

HOOD RIVER  
3140 CASCADE AVE.  
541-386-1123

THE DALLES  
2645 E. 2ND ST.  
541-296-6134

GOLDENDALE  
606 E. BROADWAY ST.  
509-773-5000

# Connect with ODFW on social media



Photo by Lyndon Graham



Facebook.com/MyODFW



@MyODFW



@MyODFW – Hashtag your photos #MyODFW so we can see them!



Check out our weekly recreation report of current hunting and fishing opportunities at [www.odfw.com](http://www.odfw.com)



## KLICKITAT CANYON MARKET

### SAVE TIME!

Book a shuttle and have your vehicle waiting when you get off the river. We offer the best rates on the Klickitat. We will move your truck and trailer down river for you!

#### We Have Low prices.

- Sack lunches • Beer • Snacks • Fishing licenses
- Bait Tackle • Fly Fishing Flies

Check Facebook for Daily River Updates 

Dont forget your Discover pass!

100 N MAIN KLICKITAT, WA  
509-369-4400 • [WWW.KLICKITATCANYONMARKET.COM](http://WWW.KLICKITATCANYONMARKET.COM)

# Did You Miss Out?

Call us and we'll get you in the next issue of

## THE GORGE SPORTSMAN

The Dalles Chronicle

541-296-2141

Hood River News

541-386-1234



# Hot stuff



## Summer is a great time to fish the largemouth bass

Summer brings warmer water temperatures and the fish move into deeper, cooler waters. As long as water temperatures stay below 80 degrees, bass will remain feisty and receptive to a well-presented lure. While deeper water presentations are most effective during the day, anglers can tempt bass with surface lures during early morning and late evening

when the sun is not directly on the water. Late summer and early fall can trigger a burst of feeding activity with bass, who sense the coming cold weather. Next to the pre-spawn period, this can be the best fishing of the year. Once a lake turns over and water temperature drops below 50 degrees, bass become lethargic and difficult to catch.

Bass fishing techniques tend to be based on the kind of lure you're throwing.

### WORMS

Perhaps the most popular and effective bass lures, rubber worms come in a variety of sizes and colors, and can

*(continued on page 46)*



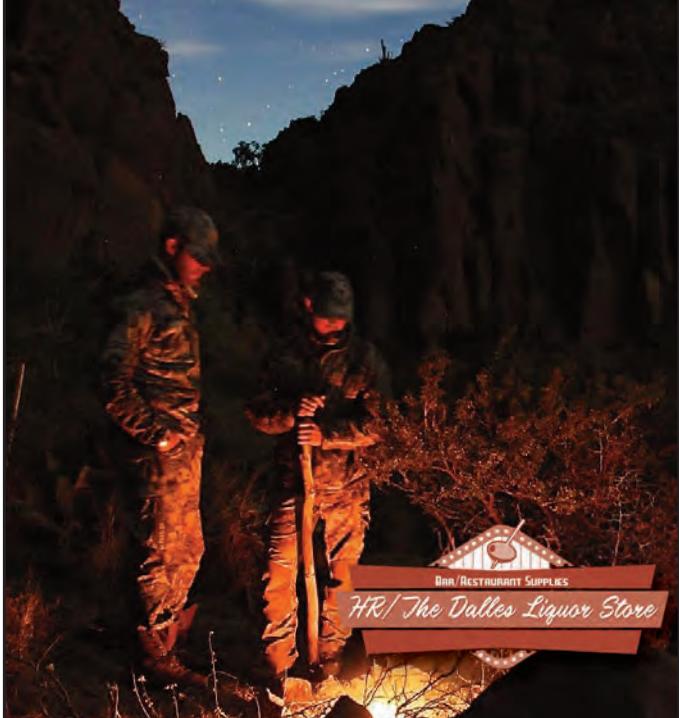
**Paying Top Dollar**

- Fair Grading
- Buying all Year Round
- We Come To You



**541-693-4597**  
[jason@wildchewz.com](mailto:jason@wildchewz.com)





BAR/RESTAURANT SUPPLIES  
*HR/The Dalles Liquor Store*

**Drink Responsibly**

430 Mt. Hood St. • The Dalles • 541-298-2040  
2149 Cascade Ave • Hood River • 541-386-1991

be fished using a variety of techniques. Bass will often hit a worm as it is dropping through the water. A very, very slow “dragging” retrieve along the bottom can entice inactive or non-receptive fish, while the use of a more animated curly-tailed worm can attract more active fish in warmer waters.

**CRANKBAITS**

(aka diving plugs) – These lures got their name because they are designed to cast out and then “crank” back in. Hollow plastic or wood lures designed to dive to varying depths they come in variety of shapes, colors and sizes to imitate bait fish.

**SPINNERBAITS**

These were once called safety-pin lures because the shape of the wire framework resembles an open safety pin. These lures combine a lead head with one or more flashing spinner blades, a sharp hook and a rubber skirt

to hide the hook. These are very versatile lures that can be fished year-round.

**JIGS**

Jigs are heavy, lead-headed lures with a single hook often masked with a rubber skirt, hair or other materials. These are good lures to fish around wood and docks.

**FLOATING LURES**

Available in a variety of sizes, shapes and colors to imitate frogs, mice, prey fish, these can be exciting lures to fish because you see the fish come to the surface and take the lure in an aggressive, splashy take. Bass are sun shy, so fish these lures early or late in the day.

**SWIMBAITS**

These are large (up to 6-8 inches) soft rubber or plastic lures with a jig head that resemble prey fish. These lures are becoming more popular among anglers targeting trophy bass.



Boats are preferred by some bass fisherman, but bank fishing is also very effective. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife recreation reports are published online weekly.

Story/photo courtesy ODFW

# THE BEST

## JUST GETS BETTER

BERKLEY KEEPS THE NORTHWEST FISHING.

**THE DALLES**  
2600 West 6th Street  
(541) 296-9610

Berkley gear available at select Coastal stores. Find locations at [CoastalFarm.com](http://CoastalFarm.com)

# Kubota RTV X-Series

Do more with Kubota's full line of powerful 4WD workhorses.



## RTV-X900

- Kubota Diesel Engine – 21.6 HP\*
- Front and Extra Duty Independent Rear Suspension (IRS)
- Available in General Purpose or Worksite Models



## RTV-X1100C

- Kubota Diesel Engine – 24.8 HP\*
- Rugged Variable Hydro Transmission (VHT-X)
- Premium Temperature-Controlled Grand Cab with AC/Heat/Defogging



## RTV-X1120D

- Kubota Diesel Engine – 24.8 HP\*
- Standard Hydraulic Bed Lift
- Available in Kubota Orange or Realtree® AP Camouflage\*\*



## RTV-X1140

- Kubota Diesel Engine – 24.8 HP\*
- Convertible Cargo Bed for More Seating or Additional Cargo Space
- 1,300 lbs. Towing Capacity



440 Riverside Dr. • Hood River, OR  
541-386-3603 • sheppards.com

[www.kubota.com](http://www.kubota.com)

\*For complete warranty, safety and product information, consult your local Kubota dealer and the product operator's manual. Power (HP/KW) and other specifications are based on various standards or recommended practices. \*\*Realtree® is a registered trademark of Jordan Outdoor Enterprises, Ltd. Optional equipment may be shown.

© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2016





711 E Steuben, Bingen, Washington

DJ'S REPAIR & RENTAL

509-493-3110



**YOUR ONE STOP SHOP | POWERSPORTS. RENTALS. REPAIR**

# 2017 Wildcat SPORT Limited EPS

• These machines are powered by 700cc double overhead cam, 8 valve inline twins with 60+ horsepower. The Team Rapid Response CVT assures quick power delivery. Double A-arm front suspension gives 12.2 inches of travel. Double A-arm rear suspension with a sway bar offers 12.6 inches.

• Wildcat Sport Limited EPS's come with 2.5" Elka Stage Stage 5 piggyback reservoir shocks featuring adjustable high speed compression, low speed compression, rebound and spring preload. The Limited also includes full doors, aluminum wheels, power steering and Dynamic Gray painted bodywork.



## 2017 HDX 700

Crew XT

## 2016 MudPro 700 Limited



[www.djmountainmotorsports.com](http://www.djmountainmotorsports.com)