



RICHLAND ROD & GUN CLUB

(INCORPORATED)

A 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization

P.O. BOX 337

RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352

I GIVE MY PLEDGE AS AN AMERICAN TO SAVE AND FAITHFULLY DEFEND FROM WASTE, THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF MY COUNTRY; ITS AIR, SOILS, AND MINERALS; ITS FORESTS, WATERS, AND WILDLIFE. I WILL HELP EDUCATE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO BE RESPONSIBLE CARETAKERS OF THE RESOURCES OF AMERICA.

May 2021, Volume 76 No.6

Club Website- www.richlandrodandgun.org

Club Facebook- www.facebook.com/RichlandRodandGunClub

2021 Officers

Richard Sharp, President (509) 551-6785

Richard Libby, Treasurer (509)947-0498

Dustin Ney, Vice-President (509)713-0766

Carla Boeringa, Secretary (509) 375-7791

MEETINGS AND DEADLINES

General Meeting – June 1st at Howard Amon Park

Board Meeting- June 15th 7:00 PM, [Zoom Meeting](#)

June Newsletter Deadline is June 22nd email: admin@richlandrodandgun.org

June 1st General membership meeting **IN PERSON** at Howard Amon Park

Our general meeting for June 1st will be held at Howard Amon Park north of Lee Boulevard, in the area where the salmon booth is located for Art in the Park. Bring your own chair and prepare to enjoy getting together. Our guest speaker this month will be Wade Ralston who will be providing information about sockeye, shad and summer king salmon angling in the Columbia River.

RRGC 4th Annual Catfish Challenge June 19th

Save the Date! Don't miss the 4th annual Richland Rod and Gun Club Catfish Challenge! The event will be held on the banks of the Yakima River at the Cummings River house. The address is 73534 North Pederson Rd. West Richland Washington 99353. **Fishing will start at 3:30 Friday afternoon on June 18th.** Come early if you would like to fish the bank there, first come first serve, or float the river to the house!

The weigh-in will start at 3 o'clock to be followed shortly by the best potluck dinner the Columbia basin has to offer. Richard Sharp will be cooking Catfish several different ways including his famous Cajun Blackened Catfish and Matt will be BBQing 4 whole chickens and frying homemade french fries.

If your last name starts between A and M please bring a dessert, if between N and Z please bring a salad. Bring your own preferred beverage there will be plenty of bottled water.

Previous Catfish Challenge photos.



The Catfish Challenge Rules:

There is no cost to participate in the challenge. To enter all that is needed is to confirm at least 24-hours before the official weigh-in time at 3pm on June 19th (by text please) with either Richard Sharp (509) 551-6785 or Matt Cummings (509) 948-4905 that you are fishing in the catfish challenge. You can catch a catfish anywhere you would like in the Columbia basin. Your fish must be at the weigh-in by 3pm Saturday June 19th to be eligible. The prize: An exuberant round of applause from the best-looking crowd for miles and a front and center picture on the Richland Rod and Gun Club's Facebook page indicating you are the best catfish slayer in the land!

General Meeting May 4th: Water Safety Presentation

Jason Brustad gave an excellent presentation on water safety. A few of the high lights were: Be sure to make a check list of safety equipment you need to have or should have on the boat such as plenty of PFD's, a first aid kit, flares and a basic tool kit. Be aware of the conditions you are going to be in such as a river with a substantial current and what the weather is going to be like. We all can get complacent at times about safety, Jason's presentation was a good reminder that we do need to stay vigilant!

White sturgeon fishery to open on Lake Roosevelt

Effective date: Open 7 days per week beginning June 12, 2021, until further notice.

Location: From Grand Coulee Dam to China Bend Boat Ramp (including the Spokane River from Highway 25 Bridge upstream to 400' below Little Falls Dam, Colville River upstream to Meyers Falls Dam and the Kettle River upstream to Barstow Bridge)

Fishery Rules: Daily Limit 1 sturgeon. Annual Limit 2 sturgeon. It is legal to retain sturgeon between 50 inches and 63 inches fork length. Fork length is measured from the tip of the snout to middle of the fork in the caudal fin (tail). All harvested sturgeon must be recorded on a Catch Record Card (Catch Code 549). Two-pole fishing is allowed. Closed to night fishing. Anglers may continue to catch and release after obtaining a daily limit but must cease fishing after the annual limit has been taken. All other

statewide rules for white sturgeon must be observed.

Wood Duck Project - We have a lot of nesting wood ducks currently. Our in-box cameras have captured 6 of the hatches/jumps and the links to the recorded events can be found at www.rrgcwoodducks.org or do a search on YouTube for "RRGC Wood Duck Project." These are also the spots where you can find the LIVE streaming video of the 4 different YouTube channels. We will continue to try to find new boxes with nesting hens until the end of the nesting season about the end of June.

We received approval for our ALEA Grant for the Wood Duck Project over the next 2-years. The funding cover costs associated with maintenance of the 500 plus nest boxes we maintain. Additionally, we have some funds included for mini-GPS units to track a couple of hens.

Salmon Booth - The Salmon Booth and Art in the Park are currently a GO for 2021. Booth set-up and Fish Prep will be Thursday July 22nd. The booth will serve sandwiches this year due to COVID restrictions on July 23rd and 24th. Volunteers are needed for shifts on all three days. CBFC will be again helping provide volunteers and sharing the profits as we have done for ~30 years. A sign-up for the volunteers is available at the CBFC website <https://columbiabasinflycasters.org> then click on "VOLUNTEER." If you have trouble or no internet call Dale Schielke at 375-0183 to volunteer.

Photo of the Month contest is open to ALL RRGc members!

Throw Back Photo!

Howard Gardner March 1999 awards at the Wild Game Dinner.



Outdoor Photo of the Month Contest Guidelines

- Must be taken in current license year.
- May include hunting, fishing, habitat, camping.
- Must include a critter (human or wild).
- Harvested game must include the hunter or angler.
- Winners will be selected by the Board of Directors.
- All photos become property of the Club.
- Note: The Board may use discretion in applying the guidelines when selecting the winning photo.
- Email submissions to admin@richlandrodandgun.org at least 2 hours before board meeting.
- Please include name of photographer and date taken.

June Photo of the month.



Carla Boeringa with a walleye Taken by Greg Boeringa, Saturday May 15th near Curlew Pond.

Yakima River Sockeye Migration Study

Hi everyone, WDFW is working with the US Bureau of Reclamation, US Geological Survey, and the Yakama Nation Fisheries to continue the research started in 2019 evaluating water temperature effects on adult sockeye migration in the Yakima River. We are building on the information we have learned over the past two years. This has been a very successful study due in large part to the assistance of local anglers to capture sockeye. The 2019 report is attached, and the 2020 report is nearing completion.

This year we would like to follow up with an additional year of tagging adult sockeye in the Bateman Island area and we are once again relying on the expertise and assistance of our local anglers. Fish would be collected by hook and line, transferred to the tagging boat, and released alive back to the river at Bateman Island. We will monitor sockeye movements through the PIT tag arrays located in the Yakima and Columbia Rivers. This year we plan to tag sockeye three days during the peak of the run Wednesday, June 23, Friday, July 9, Friday July 23.

Similar to the past two years we would fish from 5:00am -11:00am each day. We will be

fishing the Bateman Island area (I-182 bridge downstream to Carpet Island) to increase the proportion of Yakima River bound sockeye that are caught and tagged. WDFW is working through this year's summer salmon regulations so I am not sure at this point if this area would be open to all anglers.

I would like to register five boats for each day of fishing, 10 boats maximum. As each of you would be returning anglers and have illustrated your ability to catch fish we welcome you back and offer you the first opportunity to assist with the study. New this year, we would like to add a biologist to as many boats as possible to assist with the fishing. Please indicate if you could accommodate us. There will be a tagging vessel and a WDFW shuttle boat on the water each day to collect and tag the fish as they come on board.

Similar to the King of the Reach project, anglers will need to register online with the WDFW volunteer program. Many of you are already registered as WDFW volunteers and have completed the volunteer training. In which case you will just need to register for the Sockeye Project. I will provide you with a registration code. Please have all anglers register with WDFW. Any new anglers that have not registered with the WDFW Volunteer Program can contact me and I can walk them through the process. We may be continuing to follow the WDFW/State employee/volunteer daily COVID registration protocols wherein you would need to drop off your COVID attestation forms each morning prior to fishing. Each boat captain will need to check in and out each day with a text message to me. Really simple process.

Please contact me to register your boat and anglers if you can assist us on this project; or if you have any questions. As always, we greatly appreciate your help.

Thanks everyone,
Paul Hoffarth, WDFW.
paul.hoffarth@dfw.wa.gov