

# SWWGP Newsletter

May/June 2021



## Presidents Message

I know this should go without saying but due to a recent event it has become morally necessary to bring this to everyone's attention.

If you are attending a gathering and you or someone with you develop a communicable illness, please let those in charge know ASAP.

It is the responsibility of those in charge to take the proper precautions and make the correct notifications. I will use measles, covid, etc. as an example, as how this should be handled.

Without using your name ( unless permission is given) we should notify all of those who were present at the gathering that someone has tested positive or has confirmed they have the illness. We will recommend that you take the proper steps to protect yourself and others. That may include getting tested and possibly self-quarantine. Those in charge should use their common sense.

Easy Peasy right? You notified those in charge, they took the proper precautions and alerted those in attendance. No one panics, all are protected, life goes on. No brainer Right?

On another note I am so looking forward to seeing everyone at the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Stay safe!!!

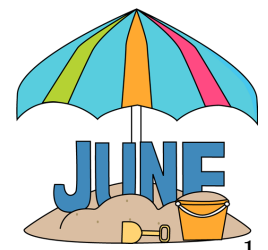
Debbie W

## BOARD MEETING

Our next board meeting will be June 13, at 12:30. Board meetings are open to all members. Please note that currently you are required to wear a mask if not fully vaccinated, space is limited.

## MARK YOUR CALANDAR!! MAKE YOUR PLANS!!

We will be starting our general meetings with our July 11th chapter meeting.



## **MARK YOUR CALANDAR!! MAKE YOUR PLANS!!**

WE WILL BE STARTING OUR GENERAL MEETINGS WITH OUR JULY 11<sup>TH</sup> CHAPTER MEETING. WE WILL MEET AT THE MINNIHAHA GRANGE AT 2 OCLOCK. YOU MAY STILL NEED TO WEAR A MASK, MANY OF US MAY CHOOSE TO EVEN IF IT IS NOT REQUIRED BY THE STATE. EVERYONE WHO ATTENDS THE JULY MEETING WILL RECEIVE A TICKET FOR A WELCOME DRAWING PRIZE. YOU WILL GET YOUR TICKET WHEN YOU SIGN IN AT THE MEMBERSHIP TABLE. ONE TICKET PER PERSON, EVERYONE GETS ONE FOR ATTENDING THE MEETING.

## **MASKS AND COVID VACINATION VERIFY**

If you are asked to wear a mask please do so, it protects everyone.

We have no plans to verify anyone vaccine status. We feel our attendees will are honest people and will do the right thing to help protect those among us who may be at risk health wise.

## **TREATS**

There will be no self-serve of treats coffee etc. We will be following state guidelines. We do need some volunteers to help serve in the kitchen. If you can help please call Jeanne at 360 673 3179 or Debbie at 360 695 3215.

## **RAFFLE**

Kerry Woolridge has agreed to take the raffle lead position. Kerry, Jeff and committee have lots of goodies lined up for our July raffle. Proceeds from the raffles are what help to support our chapter and activities. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

## **3 MONTH RAFFLE**

Tammy and Debbie are adding prizes to the 3 month raffle that was started in March of 2020. Currently we have for prizes, a citizen's watch, a pair of nugget earrings with 14k backs, gold pan and 3 paydirt bags, fire disc outdoor cooker. We are adding a Chinook Winds package, (hotel, dinner and show for 2).

We will be adding more so stay tuned and buy your tickets. Winner need not be present to win with this raffle.

Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5

## **PAY DIRT**

We will have paydirt available for purchase at the July meeting!

## **OUTINGS AND EDUCATION**

Again we are asking for your suggestions for outings and education. We will be scheduling thru the end of the year.

We need an outings committee lead, the board is handling this at the present time.

## **OPEN BOARD POSITIONS**

We currently have 3 open board positions. Please consider filing one of them. Basic requirements are that you are a member in good standing, you are required to attend all board meeting unless you make arrangements with the chapter President to be excused which is normally not a problem. Responsibilities are to make decisions/recommendations for the chapter.

## **GOLD CUBE**

Please return the gold cube and metal detector if you are the person who has it.

## **PLAQUE**

If you know of a member or past member who has passed away please let Dave Conti or Debbie W know so we can add them to the memorial plaque for members.

## **The 25 rivers in Washington where gold can be found;**

Skagit River	Entiat River
Sauk River	Mad River
Stillaguamish River	Stehekin River
Sultan River	Okanogan River
Skykomish River	Simikameen River
Snoqualmie River	Methow River
Ozette River	Twisp River
Columbia River	Sanpoli River
East Fork Lewis River	Kettle River
Cowlitz River	Pend Oreille River
Wenatchee River	Yakima River
Chiwawa River	Cle Elum River
Snake River	

I am writing to let you know that the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission amended the Hydraulic Code mineral prospecting rules on April 9, 2021. The changes will become effective May 20, 2021. These changes implement Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1261 - a bill passed by the legislature during the 2020 legislative session. Rule amendments include:

Specifying that a standard Hydraulic Project Approval permit (HPA) is required to conduct mineral prospecting involving motorized or gravity siphon equipment;

Removing [all motorized mineral prospecting activities from the Gold and Fish pamphlet](#) permit;

Requiring proof of compliance with the federal Clean Water Act as part of a complete application for an HPA for mineral prospecting with motorized or gravity siphon equipment;

Specifying that WDFW may reject an application for mineral prospecting involving motorized or gravity siphon equipment if the proposed project location or locations occur where the Department of Ecology prohibits those activities under [RCW 90.48.615](#);

- Eliminating the annual reporting requirement for suction dredging HPAs; and
- Requiring aquatic invasive species prevention measures for motorized or gravity siphon equipment.

An updated version of the Gold and Fish pamphlet will be available on the [mineral prospecting web page](#) shortly before the rules take effect.

Before conducting any mineral prospecting with motorized or gravity siphon equipment, WDFW recommends visiting the [Department of Ecology's mineral prospecting web site](#) to learn more about prohibitions and new permitting requirements enacted in ESHB 1261.

Additional information about the rule amendments is available on the [HPA Rule Making web page](#). For more information, please contact Theresa Nation at [HPARules@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:HPARules@dfw.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

**Theresa Nation**  
Environmental Planner  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1111 Washington St. SE  
Olympia, WA 98501  
(360) 688-4745 cell



<b>Executive Board</b>	(Elected)		
President	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Vice President	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
Secretary	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
Assistant Secretary	Van Meter		vmeter@comcast.net
Treasurer	Patti Long	503-320-3854	palong48@gmail.com
<b>Board of Directors</b>	(Elected )		
	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
	Maurine Koppi	3609079295	koppi@comcast.net
	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
	Tammy Binford	503-766-7814	kaycbear99@gmail.com
	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhounstool1966@yahoo.com
<b>Claims Chair</b>	(Elected)		
	Preston Griffin	360-903-2054	griff11546@gmail.com
<b>State Director (WA)</b>	(Appointed by GPAA)		
	Steve Lewin	971-212-5996	goldpan123@yahoo.com
<b>Committees / Chairs</b>	Appointed by chapter President		
<b>Education</b>	Preston Griffin	360 903 2054	griff11546@gmail.com
<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Don Spillman	360-773-8708	Golddigger357@outlook.com
<b>Fundraising Coordi-</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
Assistant	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
<b>Hospitality</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Tina Long	503-544-3695	treasuretrove67@hotmail.com
<b>Picnic, Holiday Din-</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Librarian</b>	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
<b>Membership</b>	Edna Nelson	503-307-0852	rockhound-
<b>Newsletter</b>	Mark Mattila	360-609-6813	chipper49@outlook.com
<b>Outing Coordinator</b>	Scott Long	971-219-1079	mthoodfire74@hotmail.com
<b>Safety Officer</b>	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Steve Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Norm Erickson	503-801-1452	None
	Betty Erickson	503-801-1452	bettyerickson13@yahoo.com
<b>Sargent at Arms</b>	Daniel Keesee	360-269-2341	None
	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal01@comcast.net
	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
<b>Sunshine</b>	Ann Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
<b>T-Shirts</b>	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Webmaster</b>	Dennis Clevenger	360-281-6338	dennisc@pacifier.com
<b>Historian</b>	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicaajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Deborah Lee	360-624-6565	deborah35@me.com
<b>Gold Buyer</b>	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
<b>PayDirt</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Other committees will be formed as needed. Please let Debbie Witcher know if your name was missed or if you would like to serve.			

<b>GPAA Points</b>	Bob Brown	360-576-0213	photogal01@comcast.net
<b>Name Tags</b>	Dave Conti	360-256-0892	user764554@aol.com
<b>Awards</b>	Debbie Witcher	360-695-3215	ddwitcher@yahoo.com
<b>Picnic and Holiday</b>	Jeanne Gieg	360-673-3179	jeannegieg@gmail.com
Assistant	Maurine Koppi	360-907-9295	koppi@comcast.net
Assistant	Leigh Anne Chavez	503-531-2770	ohwell1956@yahoo.com
<b>Facebook</b>	Shawndell Albright	503-289-3536	northrains@gmail.com
Assistant			
<b>Raffle</b>	Jim Erickson	360-260-3225	aerickson@q.com
Assistant	Jeff Wooldridge	360-907-2602	harmonicajeff@msn.com
Assistant	Ron Koppi	360-921-3833	koppi@comcast.net
<b>Chapter Store</b>	Dennis Witcher	360-695-3215	ddWitcher@yahoo.com
Chapter mailing address: 5400 NE Highway 99 STE G Vancouver WA 98665			

## Links

Website: [www.SWWGoldProspectors.org](http://www.SWWGoldProspectors.org)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

Gold and Fish Book: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/mining/>

HPA Rulemaking web page: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/hpa/rulemaking/>

GPAA <https://www.goldprospectors.org/>

[HPA application process.](#)

<http://mylandmatters.com/>

### FACEBOOK EDUCATION LINKS HERE

<https://www.facebook.co/SWwashingtonGoldProspectors>

## Thanks to these companies for supporting our activities.

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Pro Caliber	McCord's Vancouver Toyota	AKAU Lodge 760-500-1329
Designs of all kinds 360-892-5597	Creekside Prospecting	Roaring Camp 209 296-4100
Whites Metal Detectors 1-800-547-6911	Armadillo Mining	Spin it Off
Chinook Winds Casino & Resort	Fossickers	Thrive Life
Quick Badge	Dana's classic Flowers and Gifts	Northwest Detector Sales 503-936-1443
Danner Boots 877-432-6637	Danas Classic Hair Supply	Oregon Treasure Trail Society
Lost Adams 541-340-0931	Packwood Prospecting and Mining Supply	American Mining Supply
Ron Farnsworth Scrap Metal Pickup	Topside Mining	The Gold Lab
Gold Getter	Wilson Brothers	Avon Products—Bug Guard 971-212-5996
AAA Precious Metals 503-253-8591	Sportsman's Warehouse 360 604-8000	

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Please support these vendors as they support us with contributions and in many cases discounts. We will be doing interviews with many of them so we can get to know a little more about them.