I was on a fishing binge last week. I fly fished on the Klickitat River and hover fished off the mouth of the White Salmon River on the Columbia River. I also trolled off the mouth of the Klickitat River on the Columbia. I met some new people and got to spend time with old friends. I did all this before going to Spokane for WDFW commission meetings. It was very busy week and I enjoyed it all.

I was scheduled to attend Fish Camp again this year from September 13th through the 17th, and on the 14th I joined the Director of the Washington Department of Fish Wildlife, Jim Unsworth, for a float on the Klickitat River. He had expressed an interest in seeing this river and of the river and where the fish would be holding. I arranged for my good friend and guide Johnny Boitano of the Troutwater Fly Shop in Ellensburg to take us. The weather had been in the 90s prior and this was another wild fish that was released. Given the water conditions this trip would have been a bust without Boitano's intimate knowledge



We are all eager to give this river another try.

The next day was a real treat for me. My good friend Herb Good had room in his boat and I joined to our float and unfortunately the river was very him and his party at the boat basin in Hood River. dirty. This didn't take away from the scenery in We ran from the marina down river to where a this canyon that is lined with scrub oak and maple. small fleet of boats was fishing off the mouth of to try a new method, suggested to him by Shane It made the fishing tough, though. Visibility was the White Salmon River. This is where he likes only a few inches when we started the float but it to "hover fish" for kings. With this method we cleared slightly as the day progressed. We spent lowered a 2 ounce cannon ball, on a 3-foot leader and Super Baits. The new method paid off. most of our time casting with large nymphs and most of our time casting with large nymphs and baited with a gob of eggs down 60 feet to the Staying in about 60 feet of water Moser trolled an egg below that under indicators. I hooked and the staying in about 60 feet of water Moser trolled an egg below that under indicators. I hooked and the staying in about 60 feet of water Moser trolled an egg below that under indicators. I hooked and the staying in about 60 feet of water Moser trolled an egg below that under indicators. I hooked and the staying in about 60 feet of water Moser trolled an egg below that under indicators. an egg below that under indicators. I hooked and kings that were schooling here. While Good released a steelhead early in the drift and when we stopped to let Director Unsworth swing a fly with his fly rod he got a good strike. Later on with his fly rod he got a good strike. Later on bait. Knowing when a fish is eating the bait is a fish run 220 feet of line off the reel! We had a Hanford Reach every year. Unsworth hooked a Chinook salmon on is fly rod. not as easy as it may seem. The bite is very light, a fish run 220 feet of line off the reel! We had a Hanford Reach every year. I got another steelhead before the day was over, more a pause or a slight dip in the rod tip is the blast. The forecast for rain was way off, and we and this was enother wild fish that was released. only clue you have to set the hook. Good is an got to fish most of the day in sunshine. It was a expert at this, though, and lectured us on paying perfect fishing ending to my days at Fish Camp.

around at the other boats or enjoying the scenery when hover fishing. If you don't keep focused on your rod tip you will not get fish. I have suffered the lash of Herb Goods tongue for not hooking fish on other trips and was particularly attentive this day. It paid off, too. I hooked and are manufacturers of outdoor products. Each landed three nice kings, handed off a fourth and morning we gather at the cook shack for breakfast we took home a total of 13 fish for the six of us and then divide up and head out to go fishing. that morning

The next day Eric Granstrom and I jumped on Austin Moser's boat, of Austin's Northwest Adventures, with three people from Grays Harbor Unders, an outdoor base lay clothing manufacturer and Doug Wilson, an internationally known photographer. We took off from Rowena Park, which is south of The Dalles and ran over to the mouth of the Klickitat River. There were a lot of boats there and most were doing the hover fishing thing, but Austin opted Magnuson. We would be trolling, and would use 10 ounce cannon balls on droppers with flashers well below the pack of boats off the mouth of Well, now that I am home I can get back out the Klickitat. When he found the sweet spot in and fish around here. I think my first trip will be

Camp before it is an event that I attend each year. Organized by Ed Iman, of The Dalles, it brings together an interesting group. There are writers and broadcasters like myself from all over the Northwest. Also invited to Fish Camp I have had the opportunity to fish for sturgeon, steelhead, walleye, smallmouth bass and salmon. We spend the day fishing and getting to know each other and more about what we all do. In the evening the product people give us presentations on what they produce and often provide us with samples to take home and try. It is very different than going to a show to see products. We actually get to meet the people that make the product and get to know them on a whole different level. They feed us like you wouldn't believe, too. I have to say that Ed Iman did another great job at this year's camp. He brought some great people from both the media and manufacturing side of the business and some super guides for the fishing.

Reach Dave at: www.FishingMagician.com or Fishboy@nwi.net

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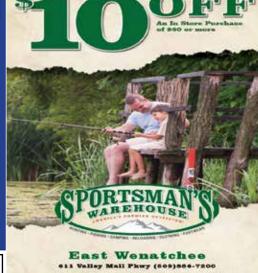




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