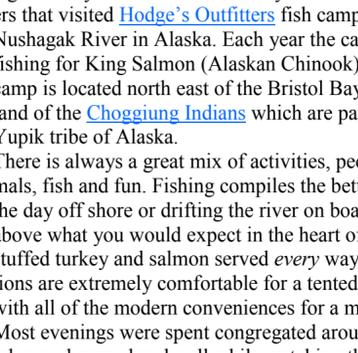




WWM Stool Pigeon

WWM First Annual Kids Fish Derby

On June 5th the museum hosted it's first kids fish derby. This will be an annual event now for the WWM. The fish derby was attended by boys and girls ages 5 to 16 years. The morning hosted some early fishing and heavy rain but these kids were all determined! The skies cleared and left behind some muddy conditions but nothing impeded these young fishermen and fisherwoman! The event fishing took place at museum's newest pond. Dads, moms, friends and grandfathers alike didn't hesitate to help with the event. Thanks to all of them. The fishing was followed by a good hosing off of mud outside the museum, and a great lunch prepared by Rosalie Jioio's Little Italy for everyone! Some of the larger fish measured just above the 15" range but the largest was a 17" trout caught by 5 year old Sophia Marcelli. Much thanks goes out to Armour Mellon who was most kind to help with the stocking of the fish for the kids. Pictured at right starting top: Sophia Marcelli with one of her favorite night crawlers of the day. Justin Bellas with one of his larger rainbow trout catches. Mason Nuttall fishing along side his Dad Don (Thanks to Don for all of his help with all of the kids. We made good use of his quick netting & hook release skills! Those kids kept him busy with the multiple fish they all caught). Katie and Taylor Horrel with their dad Jeff. Thanks to all that



WWM Kids Fish Derby



made this event fun and memorable.

Museum Supporters Fish Nushagak River Alaska

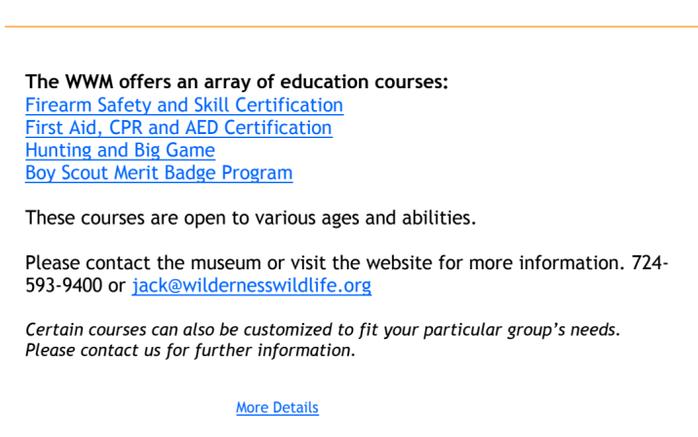
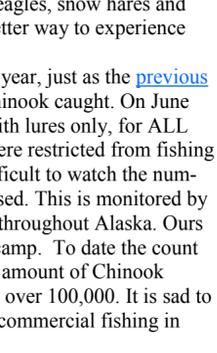
Again this year there were an array of WWM supporters that visited [Hodge's Outfitters](#) fish camp on the Nushagak River in Alaska. Each year the camp hosts fishing for King Salmon (Alaskan Chinook). The camp is located north east of the Bristol Bay on the land of the [Choggiung Indians](#) which are part of the Yupik tribe of Alaska.

There is always a great mix of activities, people, animals, fish and fun. Fishing compiles the better part of the day off shore or drifting the river on boats. The meals provided are over and above what you would expect in the heart of the Alaskan wilderness: prime rib, stuffed turkey and salmon served *every* way possible...yum! The accommodations are extremely comfortable for a tented camp and include a beautiful yurt with all of the modern conveniences for a meal/recreation hall like atmosphere. Most evenings were spent congregated around the campfire exchanging stories, jokes and many laughs all while watching the moose, eagles, snow hares and many other animals frolic around us all. There is no better way to experience the Alaskan outdoors this close to nature.

Unfortunately the Chinook count was down again this year, just as the [previous few years](#). We witnessed net burns on almost every Chinook caught. On June 30th all Chinook were designated catch and release, with lures only, for ALL sport fisherman. Thankfully all the commercial nets were restricted from fishing at all. Only subsistence nets were permitted. It was difficult to watch the numbers of the Chinook not increase as the season progressed. This is monitored by various fish and game sonar stations on various rivers throughout Alaska. Ours to reference was the [Nushagak's](#) located not far from camp. To date the count is only a little over 35,000 and the WWM believes the amount of Chinook needed to ensure a successful 5 year spawning cycle is over 100,000. It is sad to see the results of the impact of the over fishing by the commercial fishing in this area.

The museum plans to do its part with the help of our supporters and friends. We will be teaming up with [Senator Lesil McGuire](#) to help bring attention to this problem and help to conserve the Chinook. She has informed us that there will be attention brought towards this in October of this year. The museum also brought attention to this in a [previous Stool Pigeon newsletter](#) museum friends and supporters experienced this last year.

Pictures starting at top right: Senator Lesil McGuire and Jack Keslar with her 38lbs King Salmon Catch. Below: A panoramic view of part of Hodge's Outfitter's Nushagak fish camp.



The WWM offers an array of education courses:

[Firearm Safety and Skill Certification](#)

[First Aid, CPR and AED Certification](#)

[Hunting and Big Game](#)

[Boy Scout Merit Badge Program](#)

These courses are open to various ages and abilities.

Please contact the museum or visit the website for more information. 724-593-9400 or jack@wildernesswildlife.org

Certain courses can also be customized to fit your particular group's needs. Please contact us for further information.

[More Details](#)

To remove your name from our mailing list, please [click here](#).

Questions or comments? E-mail us at jack@wildernesswildlife.org