

KALAMA RIVER OUTING, MAY 20

By Mike Carroll

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Description: A day of fishing on the Kalama River.

Driving Directions: From Vancouver, take I-205 N to I-5 N. Take exit 32 (Kalama River Road). Turn right onto Kalama River Road and drive about 2 miles to Modrow Bridge on the right. Cross the river and turn left into the boat launch area. **A Discovery Pass will be needed if you leave your vehicle at this launch site.** The turn in to this site will be marked with CSF club signs.

Scheduled Events: We will meet about 8 AM at the parking lot beneath Modrow Bridge. We will discuss the river and general directions. From this location we will arrange floats and shuttles. No meals will be served on this outing so pack a lunch and beverage.

Description of the area: The Kalama River has about 16 miles of fishable water along the Kalama River Road. Some of these areas are easily accessed: however, some require a steep hike down and back up. A wading staff or trekking pole is highly advisable.

Fishing Methods: As the river levels can change this time of the year with the rains, so too can the wading difficulty. If you can, please bring and use a wading staff. Most of the fishing is done with 6 to 8 weight rods of 9 to 10 lengths as well as switch or spey rods. A fast sinking tip will serve you well in a length to match your rod. The prevailing wisdom is to fish "low and slow" when swinging a fly. Intruder type flies in size 2 work well. Also good choices are leeches in purple and black. Traditional patterns such as Green Butt Skunk, Purple Peril, Springer Green, Freight Train, Ferry Canyon, and Deep Purple Spey, along with muddlers such as the After Dinner Mint, are used regularly in size 6 to 2. Nymph fishing with stoneflies as a dropper with an egg pattern is also very effective. Pink beads are also proving themselves on this river. Choice of water type and presentation should be of first consideration.