

## Coastal Cutthroat Trout Angling Seminar: September 29, 2005

### Les Johnson

Les' presentation will cover fresh and saltwater fly-fishing for coastal cutthroat trout, tackle used, and the importance of understanding the fragile nature of this fine and unique, wild sea-going trout. He will describe fishing on Vancouver Island, north Puget Sound, and south Hood Canal. The program encompasses a 24-minute video of a float down the mainstem Stillaguamish River with Pete Van Gytenbeek, Les, and guide Mike Kinney, as well as a segment with Steve Raymond and Cam Sigler fishing on Puget Sound. The film was done for a television series "Fly Fishing Northwest."

Les lives in Redmond, Washington, and has been a writer for nearly forty years, concentrating on fishing, fly-tying, hunting and conservation subjects. His books include, *Fly-Fishing the Coastal Cutthroat Trout (2004)*; *The Sea-Run Cutthroat Trout (1978, 1988)*; and *Fly Fishing for Pacific Salmon (1985, co-authored with Bruce Ferguson and Pat Trotter)*. Les has been a tireless advocate for the protection of salmon, steelhead and coastal cutthroat trout. Since 1973 he has lobbied for the welfare of the coastal cutthroat trout in Washington, which is now safeguarded on a river-by-river basis and sheltered under catch-and-release regulations in all marine waters. In 2000 The Washington Fly Fishing Club presented Les its *Tommy Brayshaw Award* for his continued contributions to conservation efforts and conservation-oriented legislation. In that same year he joined a gathering of like-thinking individuals to help found the *Wild Steelhead Coalition*, an advocacy group dedicated to saving wild steelhead in Washington rivers. Les will have copies of his book available for sale and will be happy to sign them for attendees.

### Jim Kerr

Jim Kerr will present how to find and catch coastal cutthroat trout in Hood Canal and Puget Sound. He will detail distinct types of habitat that these fish gather in to feed, and the tidal conditions that seem to trigger the most aggressive feeding. He will describe the lines, flies and presentations that work in various seasons, and a "trick" or two to use when the coastal cutthroat trout don't seem to be biting.

Jim Kerr resides on the Olympic Peninsula where he guides full time for steelhead, trout, and salmon in fresh and salt water. His guide service has been featured in articles in Northwest Fly Fishing magazine, Western Outdoors magazine, the Fly Fishing and Tying Journal, and Doug Rose's new book, "The Color of Winter", on fly fishing for winter steelhead. Jim specializes in coastal cutthroat trout fishing in saltwater, especially in the Straits area and northern Hood Canal. He has also fished for coastal cutthroat trout in south Puget Sound. He has appeared on The Outdoor Network and Northwest Outdoors TV, guiding for anglers such as Skip Morris, and doing fly tying demonstrations of his original coastal cutthroat trout fly patterns.