

MUSKIES, INC. National is an active, service orientated, non-profit organization for men, women and children with a single focus of improving the sport of Muskie fishing everywhere the fish are found. Founded in 1966 by Gil Hamm in Minnesota, the original group of thirteen avid Muskie fishermen concentrated on continual improvement of the Muskie resource through rearing and stocking efforts and sound conservation practices. State departments of natural resource have realized the value of stocking Muskies. 37 of the lower 48 states currently have active Muskie stocking programs. Muskies, Inc. has expanded to over 7,500 members and 50 independent local Chapters throughout the country. Muskies, Inc. has become a national voice for the protection of the Muskies, species.

Muskies, Inc. is widely recognized as the first organized group of sport anglers to espouse the "Catch & Release" practice now embraced by some many conservation minded groups throughout North America. Today, the National Organization focuses on three critical areas: Youth, Fisheries and Research.

About NW TIGER PAC, Chapter #57 of Muskies, Inc.:

Special thanks to all the volunteers! They are generous with their time, open with their Muskie knowledge and passionate about the success of both the Chapter and the Tiger Muskie Program in the beautiful Northwest.

Chapter #57 was started in May 2007. Because we were the first Chapter in Washington, the volunteers who stepped forward and were willing to do the time-consuming duties of starting up a non-profit were crucial to its success. They have done a tremendous job of educating the populace about two phrases many have never heard before: Muskies, Inc. and Tiger Muskie.

The membership is active, dedicated, fun-loving and includes families. The mysterious Muskie keeps our egos in check, so the Tournaments are about fun and camaraderie as well as competition. Every one of our members is important and we look forward to welcoming more in the coming years. Our meetings are open; you do not need to be a member in order to attend. We are dedicated anglers and we encourage the art of catch and release Muskie fishing. Through education, conservation, stocking and release efforts, we can continue to enhance the Washington Tiger Muskie Program.

One of our primary goals is to educate the public and fellow anglers about these large, elusive fish. We also recognize the importance of taking youth fishing, for many species, in order to continue the stewardship of the great outdoors.

With Gil Hamm's legacy to guide us, we are eager to fulfill more of his dreams here on the west coast.

Special Thanks to those who helped get the Chapter started and who continue to work for the Tiger Muskie Program success:

Jack Tipping (now retired biologist from the WDFW) started it all back in 1988 when he planted the first Tiger Muskies in the state at Mayfield Lake, near Mossyrock, WA. It was not an easy process and initially there were many roadblocks. We are all indebted to him for his perseverance and success and proud to have him as a member.

Don Wittenberger is our IFPAG Commission Liaison. He is our contact person for regulation changes and Warm Water Program news concerning the Tiger Muskie Program. Don has been fishing for WA. Tiger Muskie for many years and was a

spokesman for the fishery long before the thought of a Chapter of M.I. was even discussed. He hails from Wisconsin.

Bruce Bolding, then a WDFW biologist, was very instrumental in launching the Chapter. It was with his guidance that many of these lone tiger muskie anglers were introduced to each other and the rest is history. Bruce has since been promoted to WDFW Warm Water Manager and helps the Chapter decide where our raised capitol is spent. To date (2011) Chapter #57 has donated \$4,000.00 to the WDFW for the Tiger Muskie Program.

Kevin Alexander, a non-member volunteer, was responsible for designing and maintaining the 1st website. He generously gave of his time and expertise in supporting the Chapter through the first four years.

Tom Rybarczyk, out of Chicago, is the Graphic Artist who created our now famous NW TIGER PAC logo, which was originally set in motion by Perry Peterson, who took the single head of a tiger that Tom had created for T-Shirt, and drew a rough draft of 3 heads of muskies. Tom's new logo gets almost as much attention as our beautiful muskies! Tom is an avid musky angler as well as a big Blackhawk fan, of course!

Many, many members have been involved in the beginning and the continuing of this Chapter. The Chapter is forever indebted to all the people who have done and continue to do, so much to further the goals of Muskies, Inc. and Chapter #57.

If you would like to add your support to help the Chapter, please notify any Officer or Board Member.

Volunteers are what keep the Chapter going.

It can also be fun and a great way to get to know more Tiger Muskie anglers.