



The Tippet

December, 2012

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



December Meeting: Dan Kenney, North Zone Fisheries Biologist, Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, US Forest Service, Orofino, “Bull Trout Basics: Biology, Distribution, and Conservation”



Bull trout are the native char of the interior Pacific Northwest and, though much reduced in abundance range-wide (and listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act), are still prominent members of the

fish fauna in the St. Joe, North Fork Clearwater, and Lochsa/Selway rivers. This presentation should answer all the questions that Clearwater Fly Casters have about this aggressive and predaceous fish, except how to catch them on a fly.

Dan realized a long-held dream of being paid to occasionally touch a fish in Idaho when he became a zone fisheries biologist on the Sawtooth National Forest in 2000. Dan moved north to his present position in 2011. Prior to joining the Forest Service, Dan affixed bushels of toner to reams of paper for the National Marine Fisheries Service in Oregon, the Corps of Engineers in Washington State, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington D.C. He received degrees in Fisheries Management from The Ohio State University (B.S.) and Frostburg State University, Maryland (M.S.), and is a Certified Fisheries Scientist. Dan organized the spectacularly-reviewed *Salvelinus confluentus* Curiosity Society annual meeting at Perkins Lake in 2007. His main outdoor hobby is catching obscure forms of cutthroat trout in their native habitat.



Presidents’ Message (Kay and Lynn Youngblood)

December...December and everything that comes with it!!! As children countdown to Christmas, Lynn counts down to the next time he is fly fishing in a trout stream. I’m not kidding...just ask him! We look forward to Dan Kenney’s presentation on bull trout. Winter is a quiet time to tie flies. If you don’t, learn. There are some very talented and sharing fly tiers in CFC. Fly tying should be off your bucket list! Invite a novice to share the fun at Tim Cavilier’s email invitation. Here are a few stanzas to ponder the season:

It’s that time of year when we don’t do much casting about
For any number or variety or species of trout
But if you’ll all come to our next CFC meeting
We’ll be about the business of smiling and greeting

Calendar

Dec 4: Fly Tying, Steeves’ TransparANT, Moscow Title, 6:30-9 pm

Dec 12: CFC Meeting, Dan Kenney, “Bull Trout”, University Inn, Moscow

Information

The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site. Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.

Meetings 2nd Wed:

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 PM
Dinner: 6:30 PM
(buffet, \$16 per person)
Program: 7:30 PM

Backcast to November Meeting

Pre-meeting Discussions

Kathy Rodriguez and Dan Kenney from the Forest Service were present to talk to individual club members about potential conflicts with placer mining claims on the North Fork of the Clearwater River. (see map attached to our on-line newsletter on the club web site) Before they had to leave, Kathy gave a short presentation, asking members to write letters explaining their use of the areas where these claims have been made, including specific examples of potential conflicts of use. Some examples might be conflicts with camping and fishing. The owners of the claims want to carry out suction dredging operations, which by regulation are allowed only between July 1 and August 15 in this area. The Forest Service will be involved in hearings (court hearings, not public input hearings) on January 15-17 in Orofino, and January 29-30 in Salt Lake City. Subsequently, there are three possible outcomes: 1) not allow the mining due to conflicts of use, 2) allow the mining with stipulations about restoration, or 3) allow the mining with no stipulations. Adam McClory is the Forest Service North Zone Recreation Lead and will be pulling the case together, so send comments to amccclory@fs.fed.us by the end of November.

Guests: Starla Meighan, Jane Freed, Brittany Davenport, Skip Shaw, Belinda Rhodes – all with Peg Kingery and associated with “Casting for Recovery”.

Tributes to Bob Harwood: Several members gave reflections on their associations with Bob. Although not a charter member, Bob played a long and important role as a member of the Clearwater Fly Casters. A substantial contribution to the Selkirk Conservation Alliance in Bob’s honor was approved by the club.

Fishing Reports: Doug Baldwin and his son fished The Clearwater for a couple days recently, and they had several on and even landed a few. Bill Hendrix reported on some early May fishing on The St. Joe, when the river was in flood at 13,000 cfs. He caught fish using a #16 bead-head, by being selective on where he fished them. Bill and John Read recently fished Cow Lake, downstream of Sprague Lake, and they caught lots of rainbows 12-13 inches but nothing any larger, so they went to Amber and had fun with a few really big ones. David Yonge was steelheading on The Snake recently, when he hooked up with a nice fish. A man stopped his car and got out with a camera and a very long lens to record the prize. Of course, the fish threw the hook at that point. Jim Palmersheim had four clients down from his Alaska operation who fished The Ronde for five days and never touched a fish. Marc Ratzlaff told his version about Paul Agidius getting the fly in his finger up on Kelly Creek. Marc being a vet, he said he could have taken the fly out, but he couldn’t get Paul to growl like a dog or whinny like a horse. Cliff Swanson and Paul went up to fish The Joe late in the season, and they saw some magnificent goats close up, at MP 53 near Sisters Creek. Other members had seen these goats on other occasions in the same area. Kay and Lynn Youngblood reported closing down the fishing on The Joe, where they caught fish on November 1, and they were the only campers in Huckleberry CG.

Committee Reports:

FFF (Steve Bush) The project to remove the lakers from Yellowstone Lake and restore the cutts is finally having some success. They are netting the lakers and destroying their redds.

Membership and Nominating (Paul Agidius) They are collecting dues now, and the dues year will change to line up with the meeting year from now on. The Nominating Committee recommends that Kay and Lynn continue as co-presidents, and that Roger Willemsen be elected as vice-president. A motion was made and passed to this effect.

Scholarship (Cliff Swanson) Notices have been sent out and nominations should be coming in soon.

Program (Doug Young) He is still working on a speaker for the December meeting, as two have cancelled on him so far. He has a lead on a speaker on Bull Trout and needs further suggestions for programs. Doug has calendars for sale at \$10.

Conservation (Doug Baldwin) Doug urged members to send in comments to the Forest Service in the next two weeks. Lynn and Kay will write a letter for the club, but they want members to participate, as these will have greater impact.

Program: Peg Kingery, Kelly Creek Flycasters, “Casting for Recovery”

Peg described the CFR organization, founded in 1996 in New England. There are now chapters across the country and overseas as well. They sponsor three-day fly fishing retreats for breast cancer survivors. Last year, there were 44 retreats in 32 states for 615 women. Fly fishing was chosen as an activity, because the casting motion lines up with re-hab recommendations of breast cancer surgeons. The focus of the retreats is wellness and empowerment, while learning a new activity. Support personnel include both fly fishing and medical experts.

The North Idaho – Eastern Washington Chapter was formed in May, 2011, after Peg and others learned more about the chapter in Southern Idaho. They held their first retreat this summer at the Shoshone Base Camp on Shoshone Creek in North Idaho. Local chapters must raise all funds needed for a retreat, which may amount to \$1000 per participant. Applications were solicited, and the national organization chose 14 participants from about 20 applicants. All local support personnel had to attend training by national organization personnel. National supplied waders and other gear.

The women arrived on a Friday afternoon and got to know each other and their support team. On Saturday, there were sessions on fishing gear, fish foods, knots, fly tying and casting instruction. On Sunday, volunteers from local fishing clubs showed up to pair up with the women and take them fishing on the North Fork Coeur d’Alene River at Devil’s Elbow. The Forest Service had given them a key to a locked gate, so that they could have a section of river to themselves. Although there were no fish landed, there were strikes and hook-ups and much shouting and excitement. All participants had a wonderful time.

Jane Freed was one of the participants in the first retreat. Peg turned over the mike to Jane, and she gave some extemporaneous comments about her experience. She felt it was outstanding, one of the best experiences of her life. It was really a retreat, as she and other participants could put aside focus on their cancer and focus instead on a new and fun activity. Neither she nor the other women had fly fished before, and she for one had taken up the sport and caught some fish later in the summer.

The next retreat will be June 28-30, 2013. Planning is now underway for this event.

A motion was passed to have the CFC Executive Committee look into the club making a contribution to this Casting For Recovery chapter to support their next retreat.

Fly of the Month: Steeves’ TransparANT

Source: http://www.danica.com/flytier/sdavenport/steeves_transpar_ant.htm

Originator: Harrison Steeves III

Tyer: Steve Davenport

Hook: Tiemco 100

Thread: 8/0 to match body

Body: Silk floss coated with clear 5-minute epoxy

Hackle: Black



For interesting notes by the originator go to the following web site: http://www.oocities.org/gold_trout/articles/TransparANT.htm There, you will find some history of his tying techniques, detailed tying instructions and how to fish this pattern.

Clearwater Fly Casters
PO Box 394
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Clearwater Fly Casters

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Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2012

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CFC membership dues are \$20/yr for individuals, \$30/yr for families, \$10/yr for students, \$50/yr sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday, September through May, at the Best Western University Inn, 1516 Pullman Rd, Moscow, Idaho. Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Program at 7:30 PM.



IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

600 S Walnut / P.O. Box 25
Boise, Idaho 83707

C.L. "Butch" Otter / Governor
Virgil Moore / Director

9/18/2012

Clearwater Flycasters
Attn: Lynn Youngblood
PO Box 445
Palouse , WA 99161

Dear Lynn:

The employees of the Idaho Department of Idaho Fish and Game would like to thank you for your financial contribution and partnership in support of the 2012 Idaho Wildlife Summit. Your contribution enabled Idahoans across the state, from Coeur d'Alene to Salmon, to participate in the Summit. Over the course of three days we heard from, and visited with, hundreds of Idahoans in person and interacted with 3,000 online participants, some of whom were from as far away as the United Kingdom, Japan, and Hungary.

The Idaho Wildlife Summit was just the beginning in what will be a long-term conversation with Idahoans about wildlife conservation in our state. In the coming weeks and months, we will summarize the information gathered during the Summit, and report back to participants and all Idahoans who will assist Idaho Fish and Game identify priorities and establish direction for conservation of Idaho's wildlife now, and into the future. We will insure that you get all this information. If you desire further discussions with us we will be glad to meet at any time.

Thank you again for your generous support and assistance in making the 2012 Idaho Wildlife Summit a success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Virgil Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Virgil Moore
Director

Keeping Idaho's Wildlife Heritage