



Clearwater Fly Casters
www.clearwaterflycasters.com
A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



November Program: Marika Dobos, “Habitat use and movement patterns of westslope cutthroat trout in the South Fork Clearwater River Basin”

Westslope cutthroat trout *Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi* are the most widely distributed subspecies of cutthroat trout and are a popular sport fish. Northern Idaho is a popular destination for anglers seeking large and numerous cutthroat trout. Most systems in the Clearwater River Basin, particularly Kelly Creek and the Selway River, retain some of the more pristine streams and popular cutthroat trout fisheries, largely due to the catch-and-release regulations and minimal habitat disturbance. Despite harvest regulations and managed land use, reports from Idaho Department of Fish and Game indicate low densities and size structure of cutthroat trout in the South Fork Clearwater River.



My research focuses on investigating the status of cutthroat trout in the South Fork Clearwater River Basin. Radio telemetry and underwater observations (i.e., snorkeling) will be used to describe seasonal movement patterns, spatial and temporal distribution, habitat selection, and factors limiting cutthroat trout. Results from this research will indicate the use of important environmental factors, cause of mortality, and will influence habitat management and harvest regulations.



Marika is currently an M.S. student at the University of Idaho. In 2007, she received her B.S. in biology from Eastern Oregon University. Then, she worked several seasonal positions with the U. S. Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) as a fisheries technician. Recently, she worked as a Fish Biologist for ODFW, researching anadromous Chinook salmon and steelhead in northeast Oregon.

Primarily, her research interests involve answering questions that influence management and conservation of native fishes. Her personal interests involve numerous outdoor activities including fishing, hunting, and hiking in the summer and fall, and snowboarding and skiing in the winter and spring. She also dabbles in painting and drawing where she focus her interests in fish and wildlife art.

Presidents’ Message (Kay and Lynn Youngblood)

We’re into the month of November, which means Thanksgiving thoughts are in our minds. I’m not sure about you, but as an addicted dry fly fisherman, it’s not as easy as it should be for me to be thankful at this time of year as our fishing season nears its end.

Calendar

Nov 13, Marika Dobos, “Westslope Cutthroat”, CFC Monthly Meeting, University Inn, Moscow

Dec 11, Dr. Ken Cain, “Restoration of Burbot in the Kootenai River”, CFC Monthly Meeting, 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**

For Kay and me, the year has been a bit disappointing in that due to various commitments and obligations, we probably have spent less time this year plying our favorite waters than has been the case since we moved to the beautiful Pacific Northwest eight summers ago now. But upon further reflection, how can I be ungrateful? Before retirement and prior to our moving out this way, I would have envied anyone who got to have the opportunities for fishing that we had this summer. Maybe I'm also disappointed that my spouse outfished me this year, but then I remind myself of how well taught in the art of fly fishing she must have been! In any event, we really do have lots for which to be thankful.....and high on that list is the camaraderie we have felt through our association with CFC. We look forward to enhancing those relationships even further at our upcoming meeting.

Backcast to October Meeting

Guests: Scott O'Donnell, a former UI student, who has been attending our St. Joe fishouts for the past decade, and Connor Gardai, son of our members Steve and Linda Gardai and currently on furlough from the service.

Fishing Reports: Roger Willemsen had fished the North Fork Clearwater and Kelly Creek, and he reported great fishing. He and a friend caught a number of big cutts the previous week on caddis flies and midges. Paul Agidius had been on the Henry's Fork, where he caught a nice rainbow. He reported lots of small fish at Warm Springs. He and two other members just returned from fishing in the Dillon area. The fishing was reported to have been slow, but now they know more about the Beaverhead and Big Hole Rivers for future reference.

Steve Busch said the steelheading was poor on the Rhonde and Clearwater, with fish in the former but not the latter. Linda Gardai reported on their great, recent fishing trip on the Middle Fork of the Flathead River. Bruce Frazier said he spent a day on the Snake two weeks ago, and there were a few summer fish but no winter fish. He managed four fish in three days on the Lochsa River.

Dave Tharp reported amazing fishing on the St. Joe one week and then very slow a week later. He floated the Canyon Section, which was really tough. Bill Hendrix went for bass on the Snake – didn't say exactly where – used a No. 8 Woolly Bugger and even caught one slightly bigger than the fly.

Andy Kleinhofs and friends made a trip to the Lower Deschutes, where the fishing was ok but not fantastic. He and Fred Muehlbauer had made their annual Kodiak Island trip. Fred reported the fishing really good on flies, one of their best years ever, with fish up to 20 pounds.

Lynn Youngblood said he and Kay had fished recently on the Lochsa and North Fork. One day the fishing was really hot, and they caught over 30 fish. They were 10 days on the road in their "new" camper – the old one finally gave up! Five days they had rain. The other downer for Lynn seemed to be that he had to report that Kay caught most of the fish. The new camper worked well, however.

Committee Reports:

Conservation. Doug Baldwin was not present, but Paul Agidius reported that there was a talk on the suction dredging controversy scheduled for the following Thursday, sponsored by the Clearwater Basin Advisory Committee.

FFF. Steve Bush asked the members to join FFF, if they haven't done so. There is an interesting article on Yellowstone Cutthroat, where they are attempting to remove the Lake Trout that have been decimating the Cutts. In the Northwest, the gillnetting removal has been going well, with a big push from the CCA. Members should consider joining that organization as well.

Membership. Paul Agidius reminded members to pay their dues. It is the right time of year, under the new club rules.

Fly Tying. Cliff Swanson said they had met last week at Moscow Title, and that Mark Brownell was in town and stopped by to chat. They will be meeting each month during the fall and winter.

Scholarship. Cliff Swanson is distributing the information on the next round of awards to the appropriate college contacts in a timely fashion.

Program. Doug Young has Marika Dobos lined up in November to talk about her project on Westslope Cutthroat Trout. In December, Ken Cain will give a presentation on restoration of Burbot in the Kootenai River.

Treasurer. Bruce Frazier said we have about \$3800 in operating funds and \$7500 in scholarship funds. He will be ordering calendars for 2013, and asked member to sign up, so he can order a reasonable number. They should be available at the December meeting. He will send out an e-mail to catch members not in attendance tonight.

Announcements:

Swap with ID Game and Fish: They donated a sturgeon trip, and the club bought them a dry suit for some of their research. Andy Kleinhofs was one of the participants on the trip, and he reported that they caught several, including a couple of big ones (over 7 feet). All but one had been previously tagged. It was a very informative trip, as these ancient fish grow incredibly slowly, on the order of 3 cm in 5 years.

Club Shirts and Caps: The Executive Committee is working on this, and they will be investigating local sources and getting pricing.

Nominations of Officers: At the end of the year, there will need to be replacements for at least four positions. Bruce and Lavon Frazier will be stepping down as Treasurer and Secretary. Doug Young will be vacating his position as Program Chair, and Reid Miller will step down as Newsletter Editor. A Nominating Committee is working on replacements and will report at one of the remaining meetings this year.

Pie Auction: Kay Youngblood made a scrumptious-looking berry pie and donated it to the club. Dave Tharp auctioned off the pie, and the winning bid of \$55 was from Yolanta Kleinhofs, although it appeared to be a joint effort of the Kleinhofs and Muehlbauers. Thanks for the great support shown for the club!

Burgers and Flies: The club was well represented at this annual fund-raiser. It was a very successful even this year, and special thanks were passed along to club members.

Some Sad News: Two very special club members passed away this past month. Tom Weber was a life member and contributed much to this club in various roles, including serving as president in 1992. In addition, he made major contributions to the Palouse Audubon Society and other important community organizations. Jim Hill was a more-recent member of this club, and he entertained us with a wonderful presentation on his family fly fishing and hiking excursions over many years in Glacier National Park. They were both avid fly fishermen and highly-valued by family members, co-workers and friends. We will miss them greatly.

Program: "Tie Magic", a video by Nate Brumley, Dry Fly Innovations (2011)

A portion of this video was shown, involving the tying and fishing of the Black Gold Stimulator. The tying was well described, and the fishing on the South Fork of the Boise River quite interesting. Nate had a booth at our Fall Classic event. Members interested in borrowing this video should contact Doug Young to get their names on the loan-out list.



Fly of the Month: Black Gold Stimulator

(from notes taken during viewing of "Tie Magic" video, which see for details)

Hook: Dry fly, sizes 8-14
Thread: 8/0 dark gold
Underwrap: Thread
Tail: Moose hair
Body: Gold dubbing, tapered
Rib: Mono
Body hackle: Grizzly
Under wing: With flash
Upper wing: Dark hair
Thorax: Ice dubbing, gold
Hackle: Grizzly



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Clearwater Fly Casters

November, 2013

Clearwater Fly Casters Officers 2013

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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.