



# The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

February, 2017

## A Message from the President *by Rory Cullen*

Warm weather is on its way. Great start to my message. Just a little correction to my last message, I forgot to mention Rio Products as a Christmas Party contributor. So once again, thank you to Jimmy's Fly Shop, Loop, Simms, Cabela's, and Rio Products. These companies also support us year-round, so please support them. The Snake River Cutthroats (SRC) had another great General Membership Meeting presentation. Bruce Staples presented on fly-fishing the Yellowstone Park Back Country. He covered a lot of miles in a short time. Bruce not only had fishing advice, but offered great information on back country hiking and camping. He mixed in some classic slides (old) and recent slides of this pristine area. Thanks Bruce for sharing your back country memories. Let me touch on a couple items I have had in my messages. First, I described some of our past conservation projects. These were some pretty tough projects. So, I want to be clear, there is every level of available participation. If you have a bad back, leg or neck there will be something you can do. So, don't let aging bodies deter us from joining in. Safety for our SRC members takes front seat. Secondly, I have encouraged members to step up and take on board positions. I am proud to say members are responding. I can't mention everybody, but I would like to highlight a few positions that have been filled. Rob Knox has taken on our publicity chair. Rob is also on some sub committees. Brian Morishita has agreed to co-chair, with existing member Tim Woodard, our website position. Thanks for getting involved. A few more positions still need to be filled: Vice President and possibly an assistant membership chair to assist and learn from Carol Staples. Tim Crain is fairly new to our board as our youth director. I mention Tim because the SRC has voted to take part in the Adopt-A-Highway program. Tim has taken this on, and it will be a great way to involve youth in our projects. We have chosen the South Fork near Spring Creek as our location. Exact location and updates coming soon. Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> is the date of our next General Membership Meeting. Check inside this letter for more information. Fish on!



John Rivera was the 2015-2016 Attendance Raffle rod winner. The 2016-2017 Raffle is ongoing.

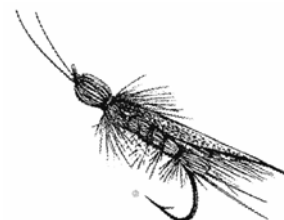
### UPCOMING Membership Meeting

*Fly-Fishing the Sea of Cortez*

*Shane Wootan*

**Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM**

**Shilo Inn, Idaho Falls**



**Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 PM  
Fly-Fishing the Sea of Cortez**

Shane Wootan has life-long love for fly-fishing. But he proceeded further than most east Idaho enthusiasts. Around eight years ago while Loop Fly-Fishing was sponsoring "Seasons on the Fly," Shane met with Loop representatives, and agreed, because of his interest and property, to become a Loop USA distributor. Doing so, he has made many fly-fishing recreational contacts in fresh and salt water. One, which he finds offers outstanding fishing and service, is "Baja Pirates." Based at La Paz in Baja California, they offer Sea of Cortez fishing for a variety of salt water species. During our meeting Shane will describe Baja Pirates' superb services, what is required, and when is best to enjoy the fishing they offer.

Gary Barnes will tie flies appropriate for a visit to Sea of Cortez.

**Proposed License Fee Increase  
by  
James E White, Upper Snake Region  
Supervisor Idaho Department of Fish and  
Game**

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) is moving forward with a license fee increase proposal to the 2017 legislature. IDFG's operational costs increased over 22% just from inflation since the 2005 resident fee increase. Due to budget constraints, we have already cut services the past several years. Now we need more funding, or we will cut deeper into what we can provide and manage in Idaho. The license fee increase bill will include a 20% increase in the resident and nonresident daily fishing license and consecutive daily fishing license. . It will also include about a 20% increase in fees for all other resident licenses, tags, and permits. The Price Lock concept is part of this proposal. This means Idahoans with a valid 2017 license including annual hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses; sportsman packages; and valid three-year licenses will be exempt from the fee increase on maintaining a valid annual license each year for at least the next three years. The expected fiscal effect from this proposal could generate about \$2.2 million in revenue. IDFG does not receive any general tax revenue. Nonresident fees were increased not too long ago in 2008. I hope you will offer support this winter for this proposal.

**Electronic Newsletters Available**

Receiving hard copies of the newsletter via USPS, but would prefer to receive it via email? Please send your email address to membership chair Carol Staples, [casbas@cablone.net](mailto:casbas@cablone.net). Fewer mailings mean more \$ for conservation projects. Fish appreciate your change!



**Reinvigorating Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Populations in Rainey Creek**  
 by  
**Brett High, Regional Fisheries Biologist**

**(The Snake River Cutthroats have invested considerable resources in efforts to improve cutthroat trout spawning habitat and flow in Rainey Creek. However, compared to other South Fork tributaries, this creek remains far behind in productivity. IDF&G has research activities to define causes and to identify actions that can improve this situation. The below discussion and tables should be of interest to all of us.)**

Rainey Creek Cutthroat Trout spawning run sizes continue to lag behind runs in the other tributaries. Despite being the South Fork Snake River's tributary with the largest drainage area (76 mi<sup>2</sup>), this trend has been observed since 2001 despite many fish restoration efforts in Rainey Creek. In 2016, 19 Cutthroat were captured at the Rainey Creek weir while runs at the other three main tributaries ranged from 958 to 3240 cutthroat trout. As such, there is much room for improvement to recover fluvial Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout in this important spawning tributary.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game is initiating a research and monitoring effort starting in 2017 to identify limiting factors for cutthroat trout in Rainey Creek, and whether supplementation (stocking of eyed eggs) could be used to speed up recovery. Issues we believe are worth looking at include evaluating connectivity and passage both upstream and downstream for adult and juvenile cutthroat trout; estimating survival rates for young cutthroat migrating down through Rainey Creek; and efforts to increase returns of adult cutthroat in future years by stocking eyed eggs to "jump start" the fluvial population. All these questions will be addressed starting this spring by using a combination of radio tagging and tracking, stocking of eyed eggs, and fish trapping efforts for juvenile trout using a variety of fish traps.

This work will be a major undertaking in Rainey Creek and will provide a variety of volunteer opportunities for those wishing to take part. Opportunities to volunteer include assisting IDFG during spawner collection (mid-June), weir operation and radio tagging (June), fry trapping (July – Oct), and backpack electrofishing (July – Sep).

Anyone interested in helping IDFG are encouraged to contact James Brower at the IDFG Upper Snake Region office (208-525-7290) and sign up on his volunteer list. Let James know that you want to help on the Rainey Creek Project. As the IDFG volunteer coordinator, James Brower will inform volunteers of opportunities as they arise, as well as direction on how to participate. If you would like more information about any of these opportunities, please contact Brett High at 525-7290 or via e-mail at [Brett.High@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:Brett.High@idfg.idaho.gov)

Location and year	Weir type	Operation dates	(%) <sup>a</sup>	Cutthroat trout	R
Burns Creek					
2001 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 7 - July 20	16	3,156	



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2002 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 23 - July 5	NE <sup>c</sup>	1,898
2003 <sup>d</sup>	Floating panel	March 28 - June 23	17-36	1,350
2004	ND <sup>e</sup>	ND	ND	ND
2005	ND	ND	ND	ND
2006	Mitsubishi	April 14 - June 30	NE	1,539
2007	ND	ND	ND	ND
2008	ND	ND	ND	ND
2009	Fall/velocity	April 9 - July 22	98	1,491
2010	Fall/velocity	March 26 - July 14	100	1,550
2011	Fall/velocity	March 23 - July 12	90	891
2012	Fall/velocity	March 24 - July 11	90	496
2013	Fall/velocity	April 4 - July 2	98	888
2014	Fall/velocity	April 1 - July 3	90	833
2015	Fall/velocity	April 6 - July 3	94	1,357
2016	Fall/velocity	April 4 - July 3	98	1,528

Pine Creek

2001 <sup>b</sup>	ND	ND	ND	ND
2002 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	April 2 - July 5	NE	202
2003 <sup>f</sup>	Floating panel	March 27 - June 12	40	328
2004	Hard picket	March 25 - June 28	98	2,143
2005	Hard picket	April 6 - June 30	NE	2,817
2006 <sup>g</sup>	Mitsubishi	April 14 - April 18	NE	NE
2007	Mitsubishi	March 24 - June 30	20	481
2008	Hard picket	April 21 - July 8	NE	115
2009	Hard picket	April 6 - July 15	49	1,356
2010	Electric	April 13 - July 6	NE	2,972
2011	Electric	April 11 - July 9	49	1,509
2012	Electric	March 28 - July 1	NE	1,427
2013	Electric	April 5 - June 22	89	1,908
2014	Electric	April 7 - June 30	70	899
2015	Electric	April 1 - June 25	78	1,864
2016	Electric	April 1 - June 22	93	3,240

Rainey Creek

2001 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 7 - July 6	NE	0
2002 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 26 - June 27	NE	1
2003	ND	ND	ND	ND
2004	ND	ND	ND	ND
2005	Hard picket	April 7 - June 29	NE	25
2006	Hard picket	April 5 - June 30	NE	69
2007	Hard picket	March 19 - June 30	NE	14



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2008	Hard picket	June 19 - July 11	NE	14
2009	Hard picket	April 7 - July 6	NE	23
2010	Hard picket	April 13 - June 29	NE	145
2011	Electric	March 28 - June 28	NE	0
2012	Electric	April 18 - June 23	NE	7
2013	Electric	ND	ND	ND
2014	Electric	April 29 - June 25	NE	56
2015	Electric	April 2 - June 21	NE	73
2016	Electric	April 1 - June 23	NE	19

### Palisades Creek

2001 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 7 - July 20	10	491
2002 <sup>b</sup>	Floating panel	March 22 - July 7	NE	967
2003	Floating panel	March 24 - June 24	21 - 47	529
2004	ND	ND	ND	ND
2005	Mitsubishi	March 18 - June 30	91	1,071
2006	Mitsubishi	April 4 - June 30	13	336
2007	Electric	May 1 - July 28	98	737
2008	ND	ND	NE	ND
2009	Electric	May 12 - July 20	26	202
2010	Electric	March 19 - July 18	86	545
2011	Electric	April 7 - June 15	NE	30
2012	Electric	March 24 - July 2	88	232
2013	Electric	April 5 - July 8	96	619
2014	Electric	April 2 - July 18	98	734
2015	Electric	April 2 - July 18	95	832
2016	Electric	April 1 - July 6	99	958

## Bud Lilly Helped Establish Our Club

Bud Lilly the angler, author, shop owner, catch and release advocate, and someone who convinced Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks Department to stop stocking in Montana trout streams, passed peacefully in his sleep Wednesday, January 4<sup>th</sup> in Bozeman, Montana. He was surrounded by his family. Bud was 92 and a WWII veteran in the Pacific theatre, conservation advocate, fly-fishing retailer, school teacher, author, and guide. Those of us that remember Bud Lilly's Trout shop will never forget his sincere welcome, friendly service, quality merchandise, and solid information. Many folks will sorely miss his guidance on the stream. He has forgotten more about trout fishing in Montana than any fly-fisher should ever hope to know. We will miss his stories about experiences in WWII along with those about his fishing exploits and his efforts to promote Montana wild trout populations.



Back in the early 1970s, Dr. Jim McCue, founder of our club, enlisted Bud and the Lilly family to conduct the indoor session of our first springtime free public fly casting clinic. This event took place in 1973 at Idaho Falls Recreation Center. Within it, Bud and family members instructed in fly rod casting technique and in fly rod selection. From there the clinic moved to outdoor sessions at Tautphaus Park. The Lilly's offered the indoor activity for a number of years, and Lilly family participation in this event helped put the Snake River Cutthroats into public awareness. From this indoor session club members would conduct the outdoor sessions at Tautphaus Park. This event continues each year with club members and special guests, including Bob Jacklin for who Bud gave a fly-fishing start, conducting the outdoor sessions and is the longest running event the Snake River Cutthroats offer to the public.

## Recipe of the Month

### Baked Parmesan Yellow Perch

**Not native to this region, yellow perch nevertheless have established good populations in some of our still waters. In some of these they grow to a bit more than a foot long. They can be caught on flies during warm months, but they seem to be more encountered through ice fishing. That being the case, now seems like the best time to offer a recipe for cooking them.**

#### Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons dry bread crumbs
  - 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
  - 1 tablespoon paprika
  - 1 teaspoon dried basil
  - 1 pound perch or fish fillets of your choice
- 
- 1 tablespoon butter, melted

#### Directions

In a shallow bowl, combine the bread crumbs, Parmesan cheese, paprika and basil. Brush fish fillets with butter, then dip into the crumb mixture. Place in a greased baking pan. Bake, uncovered, at 500° for 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork.

Quarter pound: 158 calories, 6g fat (2g saturated fat), 52mg cholesterol, 176mg sodium, 4g carbohydrate (0 sugars, 1g fiber), 23g protein.

Prep/Total Time: 20 min. Serves four





## Fly of the Month

### Henry's Fork Stonefly Nymph

This Mike Lawson pattern has been around for decades. As can be seen from its name, the dense stonefly population of Mike's home river inspired its creation. It is made from readily available materials, easily tied, and proven effective when dead drifted along the bottom of streams hosting big stoneflies. We are getting closer to the months when dead drifting stonefly nymphs along the bottom of the Henry's Fork in many locations is effective. Here is another stonefly nymph pattern to try.

Hook: Mustad 37160, or equiv., size 4-68  
 Thread: Black, 6/0  
 Tail: Forked black crow quill fibers  
 Abdomen: Black Chenille  
 Thorax: Brown chenille  
 Wing case: Black Chenille  
 Hackle: Black saddle palmered over thorax



## 2016-17 Calendar



Date	Activity
Wednesday, February 1st	Expo Organizing Committee Meeting, 6PM, Jimmy's
Saturday, February 11th	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's Restaurant
Wednesday, February 8th	SRC General Membership Meeting, 6:30 Speaker: Shane Wootan
Wednesday, February 15th	Expo Organizing Committee Meeting, 6PM, Jimmy's
Saturday, February 25th	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's Restaurant
Wednesday, March 1st	Expo Organizing Committee Meeting, 6PM, Jimmy's
Tuesday, February 28th	SRC Board Meeting: 6:30, Shilo Inn
Wednesday, March 8th	SRC General Membership Meeting, 6:30 Speaker: Craig Mathews
Saturday, March 11th	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's Restaurant

Note: all membership and board meetings are at the Shilo Inn.  
 Board meetings are held in the VIP room and are open to all members.  
 General membership meetings are held in the Temple/River View rooms and are open to the public

**Snake River Cutthroats**  
291 Dale Drive  
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

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## ***Snake River Cutthroats***

### **Club Officers**

**President:** Rory Cullen (208-419-8477)  
**Past President:** Paul Patterson (208-569-8031)  
**Ex. Vice President:**  
**VP Conservation:** Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)  
**Treasurer:** Jim Mathias (208-684-4200)  
**Secretary:** Tim Crain (208-821-1646)

### **Senior Advisors**

Jimmy Gabettas  
Buck Goodrich  
Ron Hover  
Scott Long  
Jim Mathias  
Dave Pace  
Gary Barnes  
Marv Stucki  
Bruce Staples

### **Board of Directors**

#### **3 Yr Directors**

**Mike Avery (208-351-3403), Rob Knox (760-419-1682), Joe Timchak (208-569-0630)**

#### **2 Yr Directors**

**Arn Berglund (208-569-2243), George Klomp (208-680-2762), Matt Woodard (221-1353)**

#### **1 Yr Directors**

**Wade Allen (208-390-3130), Pat & Susan Marushia (208-523-1591), Mike Miller (208-357-5569)**

### **Committee Chairs**

Membership: Carol Staples (208-522-9242)  
Historian/Newsletter: Bruce Staples (208-522-9242)  
Education: Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)  
Expo: Arn Berglund (208-569-2243)  
Programs: George Klomp (208-680-2762) & Marv Stucki (208-589-9677)  
Publicity: Rob Knox (760-419-1682)  
Outings: Mike Miller (208-357-5569)  
Website: Brian Morishita (208-201-1669)/Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)  
Youth: Tim Crain (208-821-1646)