

The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

December, 2016

A Message from the President *by Rory Cullen*

Welcome fellow Snake River Cutthroat members. At our last membership meeting Kelly Glissmeyer taught us the ins and outs about Prince of Wales Island including some great tips on how to pack for any Alaska trip. I have seen a few of Kelly's presentations and as usual Kelly had some great pictures and plenty of fly pattern options. This was a chronicle of a family and friends trip. These type of trips are special to Kelly, so thank you for sharing with us. Also, a huge thanks to Kelly for powering through this presentation with the onset of a nasty cold. Remember, the membership meetings are free and open to everybody. Next month's meeting will be our club Christmas Party (more on that shortly) and then on January 11 Bruce Staples will our presenter.

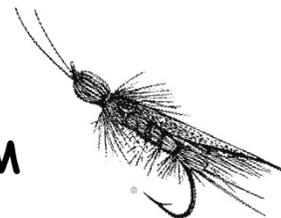
Now on to the Christmas Party. I will have the sign-up sheet at Jimmy's fly shop the Saturday after Thanksgiving through Saturday December 10. Please sign-up early as this allows us to have an accurate count when we order our main meats for the party. We will use the same time frame as the sign-ups for the donated gifts drop off. See more information about the party inside this newsletter.

With Christmas just around the corner, I want to touch on a phrase that seems to have a negative connotation: instant gratification. I want to win back this phrase as a positive connotation with the assistance of club conservation outings. My very first conservation project was on the North Fork near Salmon. We were building V-structures with large logs, rocks and black membrane. First we were pounding rebar through the logs and then into the riverbed (what have I gotten myself into!) then we would attach the membrane to the logs upstream and lock it down with large river rock. Instantly the river water level rose, sending the water to the center of the V which in turn would scour the rocks and dirt below the structure to create ideal fish breeding habitat. Instant gratification. My next experience was building jack fence near Leadore. After hours of building fence, nary a level piece of ground to be found, as we drove back to camp we were on the highway looking down on the property and we were amazed at length of jack fence our club members built. Instant gratification. I have so many more examples, but I think you get the point. I hope I have rescued the phrase "instant gratification". Starting in spring, lasting through fall, look for SRC conservation projects. Invite a friend (just like Scott Long did with me) and pick a project to join. Thanks. Enjoy the holidays.

UPCOMING EVENT



Christmas Party
Idaho Falls Senior Citizen's Center
Wednesday December 14th, 6:00 PM



Christmas Party



Wednesday December 14th

Senoir Citizen's Center

535 West 21st St, Idaho Falls

Festivities begin at 6:00 PM,

Dinner at 6:45 PM

Sign up at Jimmy's All Seasons Angler

BEFORE December 10th

\$15.00 per person

This is sure to be another fun event. Gifts and games will be part as well as great food. The club will provide another great catered meat and non-alcoholic beverages.

According to your last name, please bring the following:

A through I - Will bring some kind of hot dish.

J through R - Will bring some kind of desert.

S through Z - will bring some kind of salad.

Alcohol is allowed at the center, but BYOB

If you want to donate or "re-gift" an item for the gift swap, drop it at Jimmy's no later than Saturday, December 10th.

Help Needed to Make the Christmas Party a Success

Would you like to volunteer? Here's where help is needed.

Set-up: Be at the Senior Citizen's Center at 5:30 PM to help arrange tables and seating.

Gift Wrapping: We have someone to purchase gifts, but we need a few volunteers to help wrap these gifts. Time & place TBD

Clean-up: We need volunteers to clean up the Center after we've finished and put things away. This will be done between 9 and 10 PM

**Contact Rory Cullen:
jc1313@cableone.net
to volunteer for any of these.**

Electronic Newsletters Available

For those still receiving hard copies of the newsletter via standard mail, but would prefer to receive it via email, please send your email address to Carol Staples, our membership chair, at casbas@cableone.net.

Fewer mailings mean more \$ for conservation projects. The fish appreciate your cost saving efforts.



Cutthroats Receive National Award By Paul Patterson

Snake River Cutthroats Trout Unlimited Chapter 163 received the Silver Trout Award during the 2016 Trout Unlimited annual meeting held in Bozeman, Montana, September 28-October 1. The award, the second highest given to a chapter by Trout Unlimited, recognized the outstanding contributions and accomplishments by the Snake River Cutthroats in their pursuit of Trout Unlimited's mission to conserve, protect and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. The award cited the chapter's long history of successful in-stream conservation projects and habitat work, as well as their fund raising for local conservation projects. The award cited the 28 years that the SRC Chapter has worked on conservation projects in the Upper Salmon and Lemhi River basins, primarily in partnership with the Salmon-Challis National Forest, but also working with the Nature Conservancy, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Idaho Fish and Game Department, and local ranchers. During this time the Cutthroats contributed over 5,500 hours of volunteer labor, constructing over 3.5 miles of buck and rail fence to protect critical spawning and rearing areas for anadromous fish, and have helped restore and protect over 40 miles of stream habitat. SRC has also provided hundreds of hours of volunteer time cleaning and maintaining fish screens installed by Trout Unlimited on Rainey Creek irrigation diversions that keep fish out of ditches. Funds raised at the SRC's East Idaho Fly Tying and Fly Fishing Expo for conservation and education over the past 12 years is over \$290,000, including \$201,000 in financial support for Trout Unlimited's South Fork and Blackfoot Rivers protection and restoration projects.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who have worked over these many years on conservation projects and the Expo. The Cutthroats were well deserving of this recognition and it's something that everyone can be proud of, regardless of whether you helped one year or twenty-eight years. I would also like to thank Matt Woodard for putting together the nomination packet and Debbie Woodard for her editing.



Paul Patterson (Past President)
Accepts Silver Trout Award
from Beverly Smith
on Behalf of Snake River Cutthroats.

2003 Project on North Fork Salmon River.
All that rebar was driven by hand.



Once Closed Eight Mile Section of Upper Blackfoot Now Open to Anglers

The Monsanto Company of Soda Springs recently purchased the Fox Hills Ranch which contains a large reach of the Blackfoot River above the reservoir. The public may now fish over eight miles of the upper Blackfoot River, which was closed for nearly a decade, courtesy of the Monsanto Company in Soda Springs.

The company purchased the Fox Hills Ranch in 2016. It is a 2200-acre property bounding the Blackfoot River both to the north and south as it leaves the highlands and empties toward the Blackfoot River Reservoir. The signed property is accessed from the Blackfoot River Road which, going east, leaves State Highway 34 at Henry, Idaho. After crossing the first bridge over the river continue another 2 miles. The ranch property on the right is the Fox Hills Ranch, with the Blackfoot River running through it and clearly visible from the road.

Yellowstone cutthroat trout and a few rainbow trout make up the salmonid population in the river within the purchased property. Trophy sized individuals are present. Idaho Fish and Game Department regulations for the upper Blackfoot River (July 1st annual opening of season, general season closing, no bait allowed, barbless hooks required, daily limit of 6 trout, no harvest of cutthroat trout) apply.

"Keeping this property from subdivision and high-end real estate development was our primary reason in purchasing it," noted Dave Farnsworth, Minerals Lead for Monsanto. "But we're pleased to be able to increase the public's access for recreational fishing opportunities."

Access to the Blackfoot River through Monsanto's Fox Hills Ranch is limited to foot traffic and use of drift boats and floatation devices, but the boater should be cautious about cross-stream fence presence.

Farnsworth credited the Idaho Fish and Game Department for a program that makes this opening possible. "Fish and Game's 'Access Yes!' program provides a much needed framework for granting the public access to private property. We are very grateful to them for approving our application so as to make fishing opportunities available."

Access Yes! is an Idaho Fish and Game program designed to improve sportsmen's access to private land. Cooperating land owners can be compensated under the program, although Monsanto has declined to receive any money.

"The fact that Fish and Game will provide oversight and enforcement of their own rules through this stretch of the river is payment enough," said Farnsworth. "We merely ask the public to respect the property so that other anglers can enjoy it as well."



2017 Winter Workshops

BEGINNING FLY TYING: Starts on Tuesday, January 17th, 2017 and runs for 6 weeks. Classes are from 7-9 pm. Basic techniques are taught emphasizing local patterns. Materials are included for the cost of \$30. Students (10 years and older) need to bring tying vise, scissors, a bobbin and other useful tools. Not sure what tools to bring? At the first class there will be extra tools. Contact Jeff Armstrong at 522-7005.

FLY ROD BUILDING: On Saturday, January 28th, 2017 from 10am to 5:30pm. An informational pre-class will be held on Thursday, January 12th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm where instructors help students decide which rod blank and components to buy. The cost is \$30.00. The class is for novice or expert. Build a fly rod for fresh or salt water at half the cost. Contact Wade Allen at 390-3130.



Sponsored by Snake River Cutthroats

Fishing and Boating Access Program by Dan Garren, IDF&G Regional Fisheries Manager

Have you ever stopped to think about how and why boat ramps are available where they are, or thought about areas where we need another boat ramp? In most instances, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) had a hand in providing that access point for angler use. The Upper Snake Region is home to 3,287 miles of flowing water, and has 18 lowland lakes, reservoirs or ponds (not counting the 60+ mountain lakes we have!). Putting anglers and recreationists in contact with these gems is a top priority for our Fishing and Boating Access program. We actively manage 62 access areas that range from rough, lightly improved areas, to those high-use areas that can accommodate everything from jet boats to Americans with Disabilities. These sites are generally operated in combination with one or more of our Partners, including County, Government, US Bureau of Reclamation, US Forest Service, US Bureau of Land Management or other entities. We prioritize getting access established to area waters that don't have secured public access, but are valuable waters for anglers. We are particularly interested in establishing floats or ramps that would connect to an existing access point. If you have ideas on where we can improve our program, please let us know. If you are curious to know what facilities are at a given waterbody, use our IDF&G web site Fishing Planner.

Recipe of the Month

Carp

Carp are likely the most eaten freshwater fish in this world, and one of the most esteemed except in North America. Its poor North American reputation seems unfair because it is less susceptible to parasites than most native fish, and they are tolerant of polluted water which gives them a bad flavor. This bad flavor can be diminished by removing all blood, skin, the mud vein, and dark meat. Another trick to improve flavor is to keep them alive for a day in running water such as in a bath tub with water running through, or in a fish trap set in a clean stream.

Given below are a couple of recipes. They come from “Fishing for Buffalo- A Guide Pursuit. Lore, and Cuisine of Buffalo, Carp, Mooneye, Garand, and other Rough Fish,” available from the University of Minnesota Press. Considering their size, these recipes result in a generous amount of carp product.

Pickled Carp

Bones are softened by vinegar. Thus fillets do not have to be freed of fine bones. Cut fillets into domino-size pieces and place into a canning jar. Soak overnight in a 1:1 by volume vinegar to water solution. Drain and place pieces in a boiling solution of 3 cups vinegar to one cup of water. Add cloves, allspice, mustard seed, garlic clove, salt and pepper and lemon slices. Boil until fish is done. Save the resulting liquid, and place the fish pieces in sterilized jars. Cover with sliced onions. Pour in the boiling solution and seal.

Carp Dumplings

Make the following bouillon in a two-quart pot: 1/4 cup butter, brown onion, two celery stalks and one carrot, all chopped. Add two pints of hot water, two tablespoons of salt, and 1/4 teaspoon white pepper. Boil for 30-40 minutes.

Prepare fish mixture by placing 1-pound carp fillet, 1 onion, and two small pieces of celery through a grinder. Mix together with four slices of white bread trimmed of crust and rubbed into fine crumbs, 1 teaspoon dried parsley, 1 teaspoon salt, and one teaspoon white pepper. Add three well beaten eggs and mix.

Drop by spoonfuls into the boiling bouillon, and cook until done (about 5-6 minutes). Serve with chili sauce of choice.

Fly of the Month

Martinez Black Nymph

It's been around about 80 years, but remains a favorite pattern in Montana. Don Martinez meant it to be a mayfly or stonefly nymph, but some tiers create it in small sizes to simulate a midge pupa. All these applications make this pattern a great choice for winter fly-fishing. Martinez was a major fly tying contributor. It is worth taking time to look at his history.

Hook: Mustad 3906B, or equivalent, #8-16

Thread: Black 6/0

Tail: Spotted guinea flank feather fibers

Rib: Fine copper wire

Body: Black seal's fur or substitute

Wing case: Bright green raffia

Thorax: Black chenille

Hackle: Speckled grey partridge feather tied soft hackle style



Date	Activity
Saturday December 3	Initial 2016-2017 Bug Club Meeting, 8:00 a.m. Shari's Restaurant
Tuesday December 6	SRC Board Meeting: 6:30
Wednesday December 14	Christmas Party Senior Citizens Center: 6:00 to 10:00
Saturday December 17	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's
Saturday December 31	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's
Tuesday January 3	SRC Board Meeting: 6:30
Tuesday January 10	First Beginning Fly Tying Class (more info later)
Wednesday January 11	SRC General Membership Meeting: 6:30 Speaker: Bruce Staples
Saturday January 14	Bug Club Meeting: 8:00 a.m. Shari's

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
Bruce Staples
Marvin Stucki

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)
Outings: Mike Miller (208-357-5569)
Website: Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)
Youth: Tim Crain (208-821-1646)