

The Cutthroat Chronicles

Official Newsletter of the Snake River Cutthroats

May, 2018

A Message from the President *by Rory Cullen*

Snake River Cutthroat Members spring is here! That means the Expo will have come and gone by the time this letter goes out. We will have an update in the July newsletter about the success of the Expo. Don't forget there is not a newsletter in June.

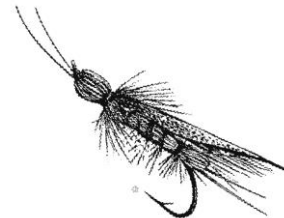
Our last General Membership Meeting was a presentation on Henry's Lake Management by John Flinders. John is the new manager of the Henry's Lake Fish Hatchery. He provided ample data on fish size, numbers, species and tendencies of this famed lake. John and crew will be gill netting in late April or early May. This netting will enable them to better predict how the fishing will be this coming season and the size of the fish population. John's gut feeling was that it is going to be a good year on the Henry's. We can't hold him to that prediction, but it sounds hopeful. John did a great job of providing tons of information and entertaining the SRC crowd.

There are many opportunities coming to attend our club activities. Starting in May we will have our Canyon Creek Conservation project. June will feature SRC's first outing with more to follow. July is our summer picnic at the Miller's and near the end of July our three day\two night adventure down the South Fork. There will be more projects and outings, so I challenge you, join in. Check SRC's website often, as updates will happen as we near events. Be safe and fish on.



UPCOMING EVENT Annual Business Meeting

Wednesday, May 9th, 5:30 PM
Papa Tom's Pizza, Idaho Falls



**Snake River Cutthroats 2018
Officer Nominations**

**Annual Business
Meeting and Pizza
Pig-Out**

**Papa Tom's
1830 South Woodruff
(Southwest Corner of Woodruff
& 17th)**

**Wednesday May 9th 5:30
PM**

**Besides gooey pizza
and drinks of
varying strength,
one of the actions at
this meeting is
nomination of
officers. We have a
few vacancies on the
Snake River
Cutthroats Board of
Directors. Want to
be involved in a club
that puts back into
the cold water
resource we love so
much?**

Club Officers

President: Open

Past President: Rory Cullen

Ex. Vice President: Open

VP Conservation: Arn Berglund

Treasurer: Jim Mathias

Secretary: Tim Crain

Board of Directors

3 Yr Directors: Cal Johnson, Lee Morse, Paul Voegeli

2 Yr Directors: Wade Allen, John Rivera, Bob Starck

1 Yr Directors: Mike Avery, Rob Knox, Joe Timchak

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 dollars for conservation project
The fish will appreciate your cost-saving efforts.



Fishing in the High Mountain Lakes
by
John Flinders, IDF&G Fisheries Biologist



As the snow pack recedes, it is time to dust off your hiking boots, and plan a high mountain lake fishing trip. High mountain lake hiking trails often meander through shady pine forests with spurts of meadows shimmering with grasses and flowers. Fishing high mountain lakes can be effective using the same techniques of lowland lakes, but your fishing tactics and approach will need some tweaking in these Idaho gems. In the Upper Snake Region, the Idaho Department of Fish & Game's hatchery program stocks 45 high mountain lakes, rotating every three years. Most of these lakes are in the Copper Basin area near Mackay. A few of the high mountain lakes, such as Horseshoe Lake or Teardrop Lake, are "drive-to-lakes." Because of the rotational stocking schedule, trout size and numbers may vary each year. You never know how small or big your fish will be from year to year which adds to the fun. Most fish stocked in the lakes are cutthroat trout, but rainbow trout, grayling, and golden trout may also be supplied. One major difference between high mountain lakes and lowland lakes is water clarity. Most of the high mountain lakes are in granite basins with gin-clear water. Use a stalking style when approaching the lake, because fish can see out of the water particularly well. Fishing high mountain lakes can be effective using the same techniques of lowland lakes. Consider using a lighter leader tippet or casting line, usually a four pound test or less. Fly fishing can be done in high mountain lakes, but back-casting areas are often limited. If possible, fly fishing anglers should consider bringing a float tube or small raft. When fly-casting is problematic, tossing flies with a light spinning rod behind a bubble can be productive. Fishing with light or ultra-light weight spinning rod with spoons or spinners can be successful. A dozen spinners or spoons of a variety of colors and sizes should suffice. Tools and information to assist anglers considering a trip to a high mountain lake are on Idaho Department of Fish and Game website, <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>. Fishing information on high mountain lakes such as elevation, area, fishing rules, species present, and stocking history is available. Stocking may be unnecessary if trout have naturally reproduced. The fishing planner, <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/ifwis/fishingPlanner>, is particularly useful for anglers and contains interactive maps. The map interface allows you to interchange between aerial, topographical, and road views.

New Management Strategies for Snake River Recreational Use

Bureau of Land Management Upper Snake Field Office and U.S. Forest Service Palisades Ranger District signed a decision recently outlining new management strategies for recreation use on the Snake River (South Fork, Henry's Fork and Main Snake) and Teton River Canyon. The decision relates specifically to new rules for special recreation permits for outfitted and non-outfitted commercial uses, competitive and organized group activities, and implementation of a reservation system for designated camping. The new rules align with the Idaho Outfitter and Guide Licensing Board rules approved in 2016. This decision will further the economic benefits associated with the Snake River corridor in eastern Idaho by providing world-class recreational opportunities for the USA people. Fishing, boating and other river recreation activities yield an annual economic value of \$31.8 million along the Snake River corridor in southeastern Idaho, and bring \$40.9 million in local community income in the form of jobs and consumer spending. The BLM and the USFS used extensive public input to devise the final plan. The main changes include:

- Clarifying state license rules with federal permit stipulations (commercial outfitting and guiding only)
- Limiting special recreation permits to reduce impacts on fishing during the salmon fly hatch and other busy times of year to address public concerns over future growth and river access
- Requiring groups larger than 15 to obtain a permit from **July 1** through Labor Day
- Implementing a reservation system for designated camping between Conant Boat Access and Byington Boat Access **July 1** through Labor Day to address public concerns about adequate and well-maintained camping in the canyon

According to Jeremy Casterson, BLM Upper Snake Field Manager, the BLM and the USFS are still determining how to implement some of the minor changes associated with this new decision, and the public will likely not see any changes in the 2018 season. In 2009 the Upper Snake Field Office and Palisades Ranger District launched a comprehensive review of the river management system along the Snake River Planning Area and Teton River Canyon due to changes in land use, population growth and increased recreational use. The BLM partnered with the University of Idaho to draft documents, hold public meetings and gather input on how the public would like to see recreation managed. After several years of analysis and coordination with the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board, a final decision is now available. Information about the capacity study results and access to the documents are available online at <https://go.usa.gov/xnpPN>. For more info, contact the Upper Snake Field Office at [208-524-7500](tel:208-524-7500) or Palisades Ranger District at [208-523-1412](tel:208-523-1412).

Free Fly Casting Class

On Tuesday, May 15th and Thursday, May 17th 2018 starting at 6:30 pm there will be two free casting classes taught by FFF casting instructors. Classes will last for approximately 2 hours and are located at Tautphaus Park by the fountain (southeast corner of the park off Boulevard). This is open and free to everyone with no registration required. Just show up! The class is designed for beginners and intermediate casting levels. This is a great chance to start casting or improve you casting ability, and it is free. It is best to bring your own fly rod and reel. However for students with no equipment, rods and reels will be provided by the club to be use during the class. Attend one or both classes. Contact Jeff Armstrong 208-522-7005 for more information.



Choosing Tippet Size

Leaders transmit the cast from the fly line to the fly and hence they are very important. In addition, the leader is what the fish sees so we must be very careful with it. You can buy knot less leaders or make your own leaders from tippet material or a combination. Before you start on any leader, knot less or knotted you must understand the X system of designation of leaders and leader material. X refers to the diameter of the leader material with 0X = .011 inches in diameter. Every increase in the X number decreases the diameter by .001 inches. So, a 1X tippet would be .010 in., a 2X would be .009 in., a 3X would be .008 in., a 4X would be .007 in. etc. up to 8X which is .003 in. in diameter. (A human hair is also .003 in. in diameter.) How does this system relate to pound test? Well not real well. In general, every 1X equals approximately 1 pound test. 0X is about 8 lb. test so 1X is 7, 2X is 6 etc. So you can subtract the X number from 8 and get the approximate pound test. Obviously 8X is not zero which is why this method is only an approximation but good enough for fishing. So much for that. You buy knotless tapered leaders by length and the tippet strength. So a 9 foot 3X leader would be 9 feet long tapering to a 3X or .008 in dia. or 5 lb. test tippet. The next question is - How do I know what size tippet to use? Well, this is determined by two things: 1) What size hook are you going to use and 2) How clear is the stream you are going to fish? The eye on the hook decreases in diameter as the hook becomes smaller therefore the tippet diameter must also decrease. Here is a little table to help you.

| Tippet size | Recommended Hook Size |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 2X or 6 pounds | 6-8-10 |
| 3X or 5 pounds | 8-10-12-14 |
| 4X or 4 pounds | 12-14-16 |
| 5X or 3 pounds | 12-14-16-18 |
| 6X or 2 pounds | 14-16-18-20 |
| 7X or 1 pound | 18 through 28 |
| 8X or 1/2 pound | Smaller than 28 |

Recipe of the Month

BROILED (SOUTH FORK) RAINBOW TROUT WITH HUSH PUPPIES

½ tsp. granulated garlic
¼ tsp. celery seed
¼ tsp. dried oregano
¼ tsp. paprika
¼ tsp. sugar
¼ tsp. dried thyme
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
2 whole fresh rainbow trout (about 10 oz. each), butterflied
2 tbsp. unsalted butter, softened
Lemon wedges, for serving

FOR THE HUSH PUPPIES:

1 cup yellow cornmeal
½ cup flour
1 tbsp. sugar
½ tsp. kosher salt, plus more to taste
2 tsp. baking powder
¼ cup buttermilk
2 tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
1 tsp. hot sauce
1 (8 ¼-oz.) can cream-style corn
½ jalapeño, stemmed, seeded, and roughly chopped
½ small red bell pepper, stemmed, seeded, and roughly chopped
½ small yellow onion, roughly chopped
Freshly ground black pepper, to taste
Canola oil, for frying

Instructions

Make the hush puppies: Whisk cornmeal, flour, sugar, salt, and baking powder in a large bowl. Pulse buttermilk, butter, hot sauce, cream-style corn, jalapeño, red pepper, onion, and black pepper in a food processor until almost smooth. Add buttermilk mixture to dry ingredients and stir together until combined. Cover batter with plastic wrap and refrigerate 10 minutes.

Pour enough oil to reach a depth of 2" in a 6-qt. saucepan. Heat until a deep-fry thermometer reads 350°. Using a 1-oz. scoop, drop 2 tbsp. of batter into oil, making sure to not crowd the pan. Cook, flipping once, until golden and cooked through, 2–3 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, transfer hush puppies to paper towels to drain; season with salt.

Make the fish: Heat broiler to high. Mix garlic, celery seed, oregano, paprika, sugar, thyme, salt, and pepper in a bowl. Place fish side by side on a baking sheet and lay open, flesh side up. Spread butter over fish and season with spice mixture. Broil until golden and cooked through, 2–3 minutes. Serve with lemon wedges and hush puppies.



Fly of the Month

Marabou Worm

This relatively obscure pattern is by Gary LaFontaine, but certainly one of his most effective. Originally described in his book *Trout Flies: Proven Patterns*, he later added the foam cylinder on the tail to obtain the wiggling of a drifting earthworm a critical feature on which feeding trout key. This pattern is as effective as any in simulating a drifting earthworm.

- Hook: Mustad 9671, or equiv. size 14
- Thread: Color matching body, 8/0
- Head: 1/8-inch brass bead
- Body: Wrapped marabou color to match natural
- Tail: Tips of marabou used to wrap body
- Foam cylinder: Cut from foam tubing



|  | 2017-18 Calendar |  |
|---|---|---|
| Date | Activity | |
| Tuesday, May 1 st | SRC Board Meeting, 6:30 PM, Shilo Inn | |
| Wednesday, May 9 th | Annual Business Meeting, 5:30 PM, Papa Tom's | |
| Saturday, May 19 th | Canyon Creek Conservation Project. (See April, 2018 newsletter or contact Paul Patterson, (208-569-8031) for details. | |
| Saturday, June 9 th | Twin Lakes Outing; Contact Marv Stucki (208-589-9677) for details | |
| Wednesday, July 11 th | Summer Picnic, 6 PM, Miller's | |
| <p>Note: all membership and board meetings are held at the Shilo Inn. Board meetings are open to all members and are held in the VIP room. General membership meetings are held in the Temple/River View rooms and are open to the public</p> | | |

Snake River Cutthroats
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Snake River Cutthroats

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Ex. Vice President: TBA
VP Conservation: Jeff Armstrong (208-522-7005)
Treasurer: Jim Mathias (208-684-4200)
Secretary: Tim Crain (208-821-1646)

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Jimmy Gabettas
Buck Goodrich
Ron Hover
Scott Long
Jim Mathias
Dave Pace
Bruce Staples
Marvin Stucki
Matt Woodard

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2 Yr Directors

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

1 Yr Directors

Arn Berglund (208-569-2243), Cal Johnson (208-716-1535), George Klomp (208-680-2762)

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) & Bob Starck (208-589-9339)
Publicity: Rob Knox (760-419-1682)
Outings: Marv Stucki (208-589-9677)
Website: Tim Woodard (208-201-1669)
Youth: Tim Crain (208-821-1646)