

SESPE FLYFISHERS

MEETING NEWS

TIME: 7:30 P.M.
DATE: February 19, 2003
PLACE: Senior Rec. Center
Santa Clara and Oak

PROGRAM
Southern Oregon's Trophy
Trout
with Marlon Rampy

UPCOMING EVENTS

BOARD MEETING
February 18th, 7:00 PM
Shakey's Pizza Parlor

MARCH MEETING
Sespe Flyfishers Annual Auction
March 19th, 7:30 PM
Senior Rec. Center

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March 18th, 7:00 PM
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FEBRUARY 2003

Fellow flyfishers:

Given the current context of world tensions and national catastrophe, our piscatorial pursuits, here in the (somewhat) bucolic corner of California that we call home, may seem insignificant and self-absorbed. I would submit that, in times of stress, agitation, and worry, the distraction of just such mundane interests reaffirm that which we (ostensibly) seek to preserve, as a nation and people.

Recently, I was discussing (or more precisely, listening) with someone who was attempting to impart to me some of the concepts and practices of meditation. What I heard sounded much like the "zone" achieved by many of my colleagues when they are on the water. While my personal experience reflects more of the "dazed and confused" school of fishing reality, I too must acknowledge being overcome by a certain focused, trance-like state produced by water and sky.

How we individually deal with the stress of modern life is nevertheless rendered immeasurably easier by the inclusion of some regular time at our chosen pastime. I hope that you are all finding an opportunity to fish.

Our planning for the March Auction is swinging into high gear, and if there are any specific requests, recommendations, or thoughts, please get them to myself, Frances Smith, or Carl Rhoads ASAP.

As of this writing, several members of the Club are either already at Lee's Ferry, AZ, or will be there the weekend of Feb. 15-17. Our March outing is scheduled for the Tejon Ranch.

The speaker for this month is Marlon Rampy, who will be giving his presentation on Southern Oregon, and the Wood and Williamson Rivers in particular. This is an incredible fishery that is within reach of those of us in Ventura County. Please be sure to attend.

Thanks to all of you who have renewed their memberships for 2003-your prompt response will insure both the necessary receipts toward the fiscal health of the Club, as well as an accurate count of current membership.
Thank you all for your support and involvement.

Bill

THIS MONTH'S SPONSOR

MALIBU FISH AND TACKLE

3166 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
(805) 496-7332

Conejo Valley's Complete Flyfishing Store

- Complete Line of Fly Tackle
- Pack Trips
- Classes in Fly Tying
- Rod Building
- Expert Advice

WIND KNOTS AND TAILING LOOPS

FLY TYING

For our February Fly Tying Get-Together we are going to explore the many possibilities of one material – rabbit fur. We are going to continue with the Hare's Ear and take it to a new level, and also tie a new fly, the "para-tilt".

Bring the Hare's Ear materials we used last time, and also some dry-fly hackle (any color will be fine).

Same time and place: 7:00 PM, Thursday, Feb 27 at the Brooks Institute Campus, 5301 Ventura Avenue. Take Canada Larga off ramp from Hwy 33.

See you there.

Bob Smith
647-3522

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SPEAKER PROFILE

Southern Oregon's Trophy Trout *with Marlon Rampy*

Did you know that some of the largest trout in the lower 48 states (some up to 20 pounds!) are quietly swimming, finning and eating in the spring-fed rivers and lakes of Oregon's Klamath Basin? Well, now you do. Our February presenter, Marlon Rampy, will show us all about this fantastic fly fishing playground

Marlon is originally from Southwest Washington. The summer he was 10 Marlon visited relatives in Montana and, under the guise of working, he pursued his love of fly fishing on pretty streams just outside of Bozeman. (Marlon had learned in his visit that fishing is much more fun than bailing hay.)

After graduating from high school, Marlon attended Lee University in Tennessee where he discovered new trout water in the Great Smokey Mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina. The intimate mountain streams of the Smokies offered a different feel than the wide open Western streams.

Graduation from college brought new opportunities for exciting fishing in Eastern North Carolina. There Marlon had fun fly fishing saltwater for stripers and blues, super aggressive fish which represented a big change from freshwater trout. But trout were still his first love.

So, in 1991, Marlon returned to the Northwest to reacquaint himself with the beautiful trout and steelhead streams of Oregon and Washington. Through his experiences in the southeast, he had learned to truly appreciate the awesome fishing in Southern Oregon. With a desire to become an outstanding fly fishing guide, Marlon started working at McKenzie Outfitters Fly Shop in Medford, Oregon teaching students to cast, tie flies and fish the local streams.

Today, Marlon has been fishing and guiding these waters for more than ten years and, from all accounts, has achieved his goal of becoming that outstanding guide. He has appeared on ESPN's Fly Fishing the World with John Barrett, fished for Rogue Steelhead and the trophy trout of the Klamath Basin. The last three seasons Marlon has been working with the Lonesome Duck Lodge on the banks of the Williamson. This river is Marlon's choice for challenging fishing and rewards of truly sizeable fish.

His slide presentation is a multi-media composition with plenty of photos, sound, scenery and yes, even a few large fish. He will take us on a

detailed journey thru the Klamath Basin's Williamson and Wood Rivers, with images of flies, lines and maps to help us pinpoint our next fishing trip to Southern Oregon. Past comments from guests seeing the show: "Very educational, very entertaining. You will learn the tools to fish this water."

Dear Club Members,

When Kevin Peterson was here a couple of weeks ago talking about the Eastern Sierras, he mentioned the need for letters to be written on behalf of the East Walker fishery.

Kevin just sent me the information, which is below. I told Kevin I would be glad to distribute this information to the club, so that any of us who decide to help out by writing a letter in support of protecting the East Walker could do so.

We need your help!!

The East Walker River is in trouble and we need to act quickly to prevent another fish kill.

The Department of Fish and Game does not consider this water a wild trout fishery, nor does it consider the East Walker any kind of a priority! The problem that exists is that when the ranchers drop the water level to below 50 cubic feet per second (C.F.S.) and the water temperatures get into the high 60s and even 70s, fish are being killed. When a fish is caught under these conditions, it is almost impossible to revive it, and the chances of it dying are very high.

We will be proposing to the Fish and Game Commission that they close this fishery to all fishing as soon as the water level reaches 50 C.F.S. or lower. Even though it would mean that we would not be able to fish during these times, it will ensure great fishing in the future and protect this incredible piece of water.

What we need you to do is write to the Commissioners and let them know how important this fishery is to us all. Let them know that we would like them to look into closing it to fishing when the levels are low as they do on many other waters in our State. If we get as many people as possible to write

the commission, when our proposal hits their desk, we will have a much better chance of getting this change to the regulations. Thank you very much for your help!!

Please write to:

Fish and Game Commission, Attn. Michael Flores
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento Ca 94244-2090

FROM THE OUTING CHAIRMAN

Tejon Ranch bass fishing is scheduled for 22 March

We still have a few opening for this unique fishing experience. Since we are limited to 15 request everyone interested contact me by the middle of Feb. For those already signed I will need a check for \$50.00 (non-refundable) made out to the Tejon Ranch. If possible bring your check to Feb meeting or mail it to my home address. I need funds plus you're fishing license no. by 1 Mar. This allows me sufficient time to mail off for the permits and keys to the ranch. We will meet at the Flying J Travel Center at the top of Tejon pass (Frazier park/Mt. Pinos turn off) at 8:00 a.m. then caravan to the ranch. Need to bring water/food/sunscreen etc. As before this should an interesting outing – lots of bass, perch and ask Bob Gallagher for the fly to use for catfish.

A local surf outing will be held on 19 April. I know it's on the day before Easter however the best tide of the month occurs then – minus 1.1 at 6:10 a.m. incoming until 12:38 p.m. If possible Gary Bulla will be the host – great chance to be introduced to this aspect of fly-fishing. Meeting time and location to be announced in the next newsletter.

Jeff Hereford
1227 Seafarer st
Ventura Ca 93001
658-0829
jehmah@msn.com

Request for Nonresident Public Comment on Big Hole River Recreational Use Regulations and Distribution

As you may know, the Montana Dept. of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) is proposing two-year rules on the Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers to address “increased user conflicts, resource and property damage concerns, demands upon limited public facilities related to those use levels, and concerns over the quality of the recreation experience”. These rules are an extension of similar rules currently in effect through April 30, 2003. The new rules will be in effect from May, 2003 through April, 2005 unless repealed or amended by the FWP Commission.

FWP will accept written public comment, data, or views on these proposed rules through March 12, 2003. Please submit comments to Bruce Rich, DWFP, Attention: Beaverhead/Big Hole, 1400 South 19th, Bozeman, MT 59718, or to fwpcomments@montana.edu

The Fishing Outfitters Association of Montana (FOAM) is now in litigation with FWP, challenging the department's authority to adopt such rules, and will also challenge the lack of justification for several other proposals for outfitter and nonresident restrictions. *FOAM asks you, as a nonresident angler, to comment on the proposed rules forbidding even unguided nonresident float fishing on the Big Hole river between The Jerry Creek Fishing Access Site ("FAS") and The Divide FAS on Saturdays, and between The Divide FAS and The Salmon Fly FAS on Sundays.* The proposed rules in pertinent part are attached, and the full text may be found at <http://www.fwp.state.mt.us/publicnotices/show.aspx?id=237>

In 2001, the FWP Commission, five public members authorized to regulate recreational use under certain circumstances, received information from FWP surveys indicating that nonresident unguided float fishing on the Big Hole River had increased over the past several years. However, independent analysis of the same 1999 and 2000 FWP survey data shows that the number of nonresident unguided float fishing parties was less than resident unguided float fishing parties during the summer months, and, in fact, nonresident unguided float fishing party numbers declined from '99 to '00!

Accordingly, FOAM thinks the existing and newly proposed regulations prohibiting nonresident unguided float fishing on Saturdays and Sundays on the Big Hole are unjustified, being based solely on an incorrect assumption of increasing nonresident use. We hope you will comment on the unfairness of these regulations, as proposed in the new rules up for comment. FOAM can provide printouts of the survey data if requested.

FOAM believes that nonresidents should only face restrictions when sufficient, credible data indicates a real need for limiting regulation. We sense that there is a decided preference for resident anglers in these rules, even when corroborating data is lacking. We expect a vocal minority of residents to comment to the commission on the new rules supporting continued unjustified restrictions on nonresidents for self-serving reasons. We ask that you, as an interested nonresident angler, write to the FWP Commission, if only to counterbalance this attitude.

In 1999, nonresident anglers like you spent some \$131,410,922 to fish on 21 of Montana's major rivers. Recent estimates certainly increase that figure. Nonresident license fees account for some 60% of FWP's 2000 fisheries budget. \$5.5 million in federal funding, 98% of which was derived from nonresident excise taxes on boating and sports equipment, augmented FWP's budget during 2000-2001. These figures belie what is often a loudly proclaimed local misconception that resident Montanans are entitled to preferential treatment by FWP and the commission, in the form of excluding nonresidents.

Regulations based on poor assumptions, either data-driven or value-driven, should not push nonresident anglers off of Montana's streams. FOAM is fighting for your right to access Montana streams along with those who live here. Your comments now can help us convince the commissioners that correct data, not prejudice or in-state political will, should drive regulation, and that regulation should only be employed sparingly--to the precise extent necessary to accomplish legitimate ends.

Thank you for your consideration – we hope the commission hears from you.

Robin Cunningham

Robin Cunningham, Executive Director, FOAM

rcunningham@montana.net

Excerpts of Pertinent Proposed Rules in Proceedings...

BEFORE THE FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA
In the matter of the adoption
of new rules I through V regulating and distributing
recreational use on the Beaverhead and Big Hole rivers ...

“NEW RULE I RIVER DEFINITIONS The following definitions apply to this subchapter:

(1) "Float fishing" means any fishing from a boat and wade fishing when fishing access is gained by boat.

(2) "Float outfitting" means the operation of any boat for commercial purposes by a fishing guide or outfitter...

NEW RULE III BIG HOLE RIVER RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS

(1) Starting on the third Saturday in May through Labor Day, recreational use of the Big Hole River from its headwaters to High Road fishing access site shall be allowed and restricted by defining seven river zones with one zone closed to float outfitting each day and with the zone that is restricted on Saturday and the zone that is restricted on Sunday also closed to nonresident float fishing. The seven river zones are defined by river reach and restricted each day of the week as follows...

(a) each Sunday, the river reach from Divide fishing access site to Salmon Fly fishing access site is closed to any float fishing by nonresidents and to any float outfitting...

(g) each Saturday, the river reach from Jerry Creek fishing access site to Divide fishing access site is closed to any float fishing by nonresidents and to any float outfitting...

Certified to the Secretary of State December 16, 2002"

AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!

Sespe Flyfishers Annual Auction

March 19, 2003 7:30 P.M.

(Regular Meeting Night)

Our main fund-Raising Event of the Year is just around the corner. It is your chance to obtain a much desired fly fishing item and support your club at the same time. The proceeds from the auction represent about half of our annual income. The money we get from our annual auction, and from our dues, is what allows us to present the programs that we all enjoy so much. Please plan to be there. Bring a friend..and your checkbook or credit card.

Below is a list of some of the current auction items and much more is expected. We will try to list all available items in the next bulletin.

We need donations of all types, especially during this tight economy. Donating an item(s) is an opportunity for you to support your club in a way that does not require the

commitment of time that many of us are not able to give. Extra gear? Services? Flies?
What have you got?

Please call Frances or Bob Smith @ 647-3522 if you have a donation, to arrange pick up
of a donation, or for information.

Some of the items that will available at the Auction:

System 2 reel, model 1011 with 3 spools
Collapsible wading staff
System 2 reel, model 78 with 2 spools
Wood River Stripping Basket
System 2 reel, model 78L with 3 spools
Katadyn Pocket Water Filter
Wheatley Fly Box
Orvis Wading Boots, size 13, non-returnable
Force Fin, Size XL, non- returnable
Blackstone/Smith Fly Plate
Teva Gift Certificate
Fly tying bench with 8 spools of copper wire, 57 spools of various threads,
tying tools and a box of various hooks
Eight flies tied by well known tyers
One day guided Bass Fishing
Rio Striped Bass fly line, 300 grains
Wood River Float "U" tube
Patagonia waders
Patagonia clothes and bags
Abel Wet/Dry Bag
Abel 10 Day Bag
Abel Perfect Tool
Other items to be announced
OVER 100 SILENT AUCTION ITEMS
SEE YOU AT THE AUCTION ON MARCH 19TH

Membership Renewal

Dear Flyfisher,

The new year is here and it is time to renew your membership in the Sespe Flyfishers. In order for the club to continue to provide quality programs, outings, seminars, and to participate in conservation efforts, we need the continued support of our membership. Support from our existing membership is import to maintain the continuity of the club.

In other words, WE NEED YOU!

Please complete the attached membership renewal application and return it to me today. Your support is always appreciated. Please complete and return to:

Sespe Flyfishers
P.O. Box 5127
Ventura CA, 93005

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TELEPHONE:HOME _____ WORK _____

E-Mail _____

New Members The Applicable fee below plus \$6.00

Membership Renewal

Ventura/Santa Barbara County Residents (Self and Family) \$35.00

Residents outside Ventura/Santa Barbara County (Self and Family) \$12.00

Youth Membership Renewal (under 16 years old) \$12.00

Volunteer Contribution to the Sespe Flyfisher Conservation Fund \$12.00

\$ _____ Make your check payable to: Sespe Flyfishers.

The membership is January 1 to December 31. If you have any questions, please call Paul Wilson at (805) 482-7443

MEMBER'S CLASSIFIED ADS

- Spey Rod-15' 10-11 Wt. Cabelas (Loomis blank) \$ 140.00
1-14 Wt. 2pc. Austin Flyrod \$ 165.00
1-Redington Large Arbor AL910-Gold finish \$125.00
DB Dunn "Payette" rod case for 10' 2-pc. rods (with reel attached). \$ 40.00
All items in very good to excellent condition.
Call Bill @ 805.657.5566

NEWLETTER INPUT

If anyone needs to contact me regarding the newsletter, I can be reached at the following numbers.

- 654-2054 Weekdays
- 525-1904 Weekends and Evenings

glennerossett@peoplepc.com

Sespe Flyfishers welcomes our latest new members:

Joe Kearns George Gemmingen Michael Crooke David McBride Paul
Goodman

Sespe Flyfishers
P.O. Box 5127
Ventura, CA 93005