



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS
April 13, 2010
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jason Mulligan

It has been a very busy month. The Riverside clean-up effort was fast and furious. We gathered 3 bags of trash on the swinging bridge trail section including picnic areas. My kids learned a valuable lesson as they picked up trash with tree branches fashioned into chop sticks. The lesson is that littering is BAD. I am not sure if they will sign up so eagerly next time.

The Runje Releaser work party was a success. We managed to assemble and package 60 units in one evening. I urge all of our members who do not have one of these, to purchase one. The BOD has agreed that our members are allowed to purchase the releasers at a discounted rate. The price will be \$3.75 for the "old" inventory or \$5.00 for a revised model. We have over 160 units available that were completely hand crafted. The BOD is asking that you make an effort to get to know these little items better, and promote them to other fishers in the public arena. We will be pursuing other marketing strategies to boost sales of the releaser.

In other news, the club has donated \$500 to WDFW for the kid fish outing. The state budget has almost made these programs extinct. So, it is evermore important for us to chip in with these events. On a private scale we have the Morning Star fishing date scheduled for Saturday May 15th. If you are a new member we urge you to contact Bill McElroy to get involved. This event is an experience these kids will never forget.

MARCH PROGRAM

By Bob Harley

Hello fellow fly flingers. I just got back from Puerto Vallarta where I had some spectacular fly fishing for Travalli, Permit and Green Backs. Walter Balek, Jason mulligan and Dwight Tipton have used this guide before and they were right. Great time with Fernando Covaroudias in his super Panga boat.

April's program will be presented by Peter Patricelli a well known photographer and fly fisher from Eugene Oregon. His program will be on high mountain lakes and if there is time some information about the Columbia as well. We look forward to seeing you on April 13th

Please extend a thank you to Tom May for heading the Big Horn show again this year. The event attracted a full crowd all the way through the closing afternoon. Once again, our booth drew a curious crowd. I know they were all well informed by our members. All the while they were busy tying flies with willing children.

Also, the BOD has approved the SRC motion (See Page 2) to clarify the position of our club. The river forum meetings have been very informative. Largely in part due to these activities, the SRC and our club spearheaded a river patrol to help stop poaching. This event took place on Saturday the 27th of March. The Spokane Fly Fishers, WDFW, and our own club showed up to join forces in a Spokane River sting operation that culminated in several fishing and other related 'busts'. This kind of unified effort makes me proud to be a member of the IEFFC.

All of these activities have left me little time for fishing. However, while thinking of times to come I have enjoyed a late night rod building endeavor. I can't wait to use it and will soon have a chance at Horseshoe Lake. Just in case you are trying to plan ahead, remember the meeting will be held on the third Tuesday in May. Good fishing all!

A MOTION
By IEFEC Board

Motion to the Spokane River Committee of the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club
defining the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club's Position on
Spokane River Issues
February 9, 2010

WHEREAS:

1. The IEFEC has made substantial investment in time and money since 1988 to enhance the fly-fishing experience on the Spokane River.
2. The Spokane is one of the most accessible rivers in the Western United States. The River flows through an urban area from the Idaho State Line through the Spokane Valley and the City of Spokane into the pool behind the 9-Mile Dam. In this last free-flowing section of the Spokane River in Washington State, only 33 miles in length, public access is provided by the paved Centennial Trail, which parallels the River along this entire section, 17 traffic bridges, three foot bridges plus 12 areas of public land which stretch for miles along its banks. Public access is important. Specific points of access have been limited because of bad public behavior, including excess litter.
3. After the introduction of Kettle River Red Band Rainbows into the Spokane River in 1994, 1995 & 1996, fishing improved. Recently however, the general perception is that the fishing is declining.
4. Since 1996, poaching has been a factor adversely affecting the rainbow fishery.
5. Commercial (guiding) on the rivers of Washington State is largely unregulated. Once a commercial guide permit is issued for a particular river, that guide may have an unlimited number of guide boats working underneath that permit. Therefore, any permits issued for the Spokane River would have a high economic value. Commercial guiding a) competes with the fishing public, and b) puts additional stress on the small and fragile Red Side Rainbow trout population.
6. A quality fishing experience is important to anglers, especially in an urban environment. There is a growing trend on popular rivers across Montana and British Columbia to severely curtail angler effort in an attempt to regain a quality fishing experience.

NOW THEREFORE:

The Spokane River Committee recommends to the IEFEC Board of Directors and its members, adoption of the following positions:

1. We are a proponent of an auxiliary rainbow trout plant, so long as the genesis of such a plant are either direct descendants of the Spokane River or another tributary to the Columbia River within reasonable distance to the mouth of the Spokane River.
2. We are proponents for replacing the signs that we originally placed in 1994, informing anglers along the river of the current regulations.
3. We are proponents of joining and/or organizing efforts to pick up litter.

4. We are proponents of joining and/or organizing foot patrols along the Spokane to a) inform anglers of the regulations, and b) call the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to report infractions. We do not endorse any confrontations.
5. We are proponents of improved public access, especially for those needing to get close to the river to launch or exit. However, we oppose any and all types of boat ramps, because a) boat ramps enable commercialization of the River in the form of guiding, b) boat trailers may import harmful aquatic plant species, c) ramps are intrusive into riparian vegetation areas, and d) ramps imply safe passage and invite people who may have inferior crafts and navigation skills, resulting in a dangerous precedent, especially above the Flora Rapids, the Bowl and Pitcher and the Devil's Toenail.

SPOKANE RIVER COMMITTEE REPORT

By Mark Pinch

Since reinstatement, your Spokane River Committee has been quite active. Responding to the serious decline in numbers of Native Red Band Rainbows in our River, the anti-poaching, sting operation took place on Saturday, March 27. This was a direct result of the recent adoption of our club's position on Current Issues on the Spokane River. Paragraph 4 talks about being a proponent and organizing patrols along the River. I had suggested the same to a meeting with Trout Unlimited and the Spokane Fly Fishers, along with Chris Donnelley, four weeks ago. The result was 25 people on the River on Saturday, plus three officers from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. We split into two groups. One covered the upper River from Plant's Ferry to the Idaho Line. The others patrolled from the Falls to the top of the 9-Mile Pool. It was quite an event.

Those taking place at our club included Jim Turner, Randy Schaber, Hubert Langenhorst, Stann Grater and Neil Beechinor. Besides some marijuana infractions, citations were issued to three people fishing without a license and five for fishing in closed water. The River is closed from March 15th to June 1st to protect spawning fish.

Please find the enclosed handout that we used, called "Eyes on the River". This is a summary of "do's" and "don'ts" when you spot infractions. It is from an educational session that we attended with Officer Lenny Hahn, a warden with the Department. Besides being useful on the River, these ideas and techniques can be used any time, anywhere that you see infractions. Please be proactive. Whether you are on the Spokane River or one of our quality lakes, we all need each other to help maintain these valuable and fragile fisheries.

Perhaps the single most important thing to come out of this activity is for each of us to have the personal cell phone numbers of the individual Wardens. Please put them into your cell phones, so that you will have them at all times. It is easy to call in a violation. They are as follows:

Officer Lenny Hahn: 509-435-6855
Officer Spurdeck: 509-993-3997
Officer Mosman: 509-710-5707
Sergeant Officer Dan Rahn: 509-991-3071

The officers would appreciate identifying yourself as an IEFFC member. Even if you are outside Region 1, you may still call these officers, who will redirect you to Officers in other areas. It is also helpful to remember that infractions can be called into the Washington State Patrol, who also have a system for alerting Wardens. The state patrol number is 509-227-6560.

Again, please put these numbers into your cell phone. It is vitally important. We realized in our meetings that when you combine the Inland Empire Fly Fishing Club's membership with those of the Spokane Fly Fishers and Trout Unlimited, it totals 735 anglers. When each one of us has the Warden's phone numbers in our cell phones, poachers beware! The odds just changed in our favor.

EYES ON THE RIVER SPOKANE RIVER ANTI-POACHING

The following thoughts were conveyed to us at an educational session by Officer Lenny Hahn, who is a warden or patrol officer with the Washington Department of fish and wildlife. In anticipating many of us patrolling the river as volunteers, he conveyed the following thoughts:

- 1) You do not have to talk to anyone if you do not want to. If someone is obviously poaching, simply call the Warden.
- 2) If you are going to talk to people, do not be confrontational.
- 3) You may want to educate people: “Did you realize that this is a single barbless hook section only with no bait allowed?” if people immediately pack up and leave and don’t simply go somewhere else, you might have been effective. However, if they show any sign of continuing to fish, or you suspect they may simply relocate, please call the Warden.
- 4) Don’t ever say, “I’m going to call the Warden.
- 5) Pictures are important. Taking pictures of license plates or the cars are very helpful.
- 6) Be very careful taking pictures of the violators. While it is very helpful, it is also confrontational. It is better to take pictures when you are further away and to use a long lens.
- 7) You can act dumb and play smart. “Wow, that’s a great string of fish. What kind of fish are those? I’m from out of town, can I take a picture? Hold those up for me.”
- 8) If you are trying to decide if someone is ignorantly breaking the law or else has an intent to poach, you might consider the following criteria:
 - Are they fishing with children? Are just the children fishing and not the adults?
 - Are they fishing right out in the open where they are easily seen, or are they conveniently hidden or far away?
 - Did they walk past an educational sign to get from their car to their fishing spot?Remember, when in doubt, call the Warden.
- 9) Evidence is important. Who is actually fishing? How many lines? What type of fish have they retained? Are there fish on stringers? What type of fishing rod are they using? Is there evidence of bait or treble hooks? How old are they? What type of clothing are they wearing? What color is the clothing?
- 10) It is important to know the exact location of the violators. It is easy to get mixed up hiking down a river canyon. Please be prepared to give specific instructions on how to find the violators. Try to know the main streets and/or cross streets. If you happen to have a GPS, you can give coordinates. Remain available by phone to give further directions should the Warden not be able to find the violators.

All participants in our program will be given a hand out sheet including three of the officer’s personal cell numbers. Please log them into your phones.

You will also be given a summary of the fishing regulations for the three sections of the Spokane River. You will also be given a synopsis of the definition of Selective Gear Rules. By having these items with us at all times, we can educate and/or report

A PERFECT DAY

By Jerry McBride

Last October when I heard that my five year old grandson Colin was coming over with his mother and little brother to Spokane for a few days I made a date to take him on a fishing trip. The plan was that I would pick him up at his other grandma and grandpa's house in Spokane and we would go out to Amber Lake fishing for the day and then he would stay overnight that night at our home on Deer Lake.

I picked up Colin at the appointed time of 10 AM and we headed out to Amber Lake which has a good population of rainbow trout. It was one of those beautiful fall days that Spokane is famous for. On the way he must have asked me ten times when were we going to get there.

We launched the boat and headed out on the lake. Electric trolling motors are the only type of motor allowed on Amber Lake. I asked Colin if he wanted to steer the boat and of course he said yes. We proceeded down the lake in a zigzag fashion and eventually got to the spot where I wanted to fish.

Once we were anchored Colin did an inventory of the ice chest. What kind of sandwiches did we have? Peanut butter and raspberry jam just like mom makes. He counted the cookies. How many does he get to eat? Two for him, and two for me. Can he have the cookies first and then eat his sandwich? No, you have to have at least a half a sandwich before you eat your cookies.

I had Colin's little spinning outfit set up with a chironomid and a sinker so he could "dangle" as we call it. After about ten minutes and no bites Colin said he didn't want to fish anymore. I continued to fish and each time I hooked a fish I would let him reel it in. Several of the fish were close to 20" and Colin wasn't sure he could reel them in, but he did. One of the fish I hooked was quite small. Colin took one look and decided I could bring that one in and he would net it for me.

Colin had eaten most of his lunch and the fishing had gotten really slow so I decided it was time to go home. We pulled up the anchors and with Colin steering the boat we zigzagged back down the lake to the launch ramp.

On our way home we stopped at a farmers market so Colin could pick out a Halloween pumpkin for him and one for his little brother.

After dinner Colin drew the faces he wanted on the pumpkins and I carved them. I put them outside on the deck with lighted candles inside and we turned off all the lights. In a very excited voice Colin said, "Grandpa that is so scary".

It was getting towards Colin's bedtime so I made up his bed and he got his pajamas on. After a short story he went to sleep. It truly had been a perfect day.

Postscript: When Colin got home he told his dad that he is a better fisherman than Grandpa because he had landed all big fish and Grandpa had only landed one little fish. Not only has Colin learned to be a fisherman, he has learned to tell a good fishing story. My hope is that he will retain his zest for life and some of his spontaneity when he grows up. If he truly becomes a better fisherman than grandpa it will be icing on the cake.



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB – SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

OUR GUYS AT THE BIG HORN SHOW, ETC.
Pictures by Harry Calhoun



Invasive species booth – Thing on right is an outboard motor shaft covered with mussels (Great Western Sportfishing Show)



Expert fly tiers at work (Big Horn Show)

ANNUAL TRIP TO LENICE
Pictures provided by Jerry McBride



The Gang



Jerry fighting a nice fish

Remember the May meeting is Tuesday May 18, 2010

FLY OF THE MONTH

The Beaver Pelt

April, 2010

Don Earnest

This month's fly of choice is another featured in Everett Caryl's tying class. It is also a tribute to Game Biologist and IEFEC member Don Earnest. The wonderful lake fishing we have enjoyed in our area for many years is largely the result of Don's program of lake rehabilitation that turned "ho-hum" waters into world class trout fisheries. Don was a no-nonsense kind of guy of strong opinions and this fly reflects that aspect of his approach to life. So we look at a great fly that Don invented and is still a superb fish catcher in lakes everywhere. Thanks to Everett and Don!

Hook: #10 thru 6, 3X long, weighted

Thread: Black

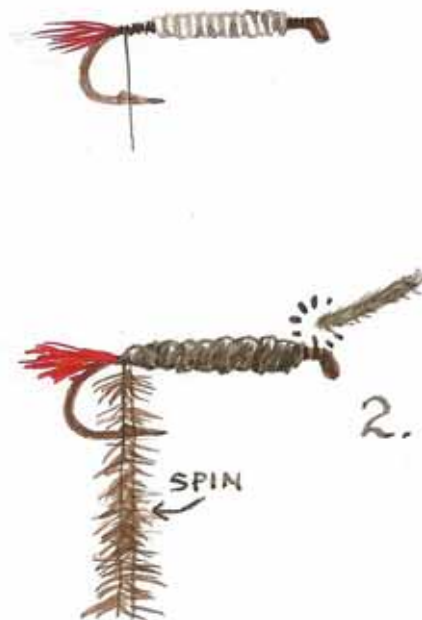
Tail: Red hackle fibers (optional)

Body: Dubbed dark back hair from a winter beaver over dark wool yarn

Hackle: One short, well-marked Chinese pheasant rump feather



1. Pinch the barb and line the hook shank with tying thread. Tie in the tail fibers. Wind the shank with lead wire.
2. Attach the wool yarn and form the basic tapered shape of the body. Wind the thread back to the bend and, using your favorite dubbing technique, make a shaggy fur noodle. Everett suggests a dubbing loop. Leave some guard hairs in the dubbing.
3. Form a plump, tapered body of the dubbed fur. Trim to maintain the tapered shape. Attach the pheasant rump hackle and wind a short, sparse collar. Shape a small head and whip finish.



INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB

PO Box 2926,
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER

A NEW DISK IN LIBRARY

By Harry Calhoun

Learning With The Pros,

Stillwater Fly Tying Vol. 1

Brian Chan and Phil Rowley



WASHINGTON FLY FISHING FAIR

By Bob Bates

April 30-May 1, 2010 are the dates for the Washington Fly Fishing Fair. Members of the Federation of Fly Fishers get in free. Or non members can drop by the Sliver Bow fly shop and pick up some free tickets. We have about 100 fly tiers, casting demonstrations, classes, free seminars and an auction.

Brian O'Keefe and Skip Morris will be there.

For more information check out our website.

<http://www.washingtoncouncilfff.org/>