



**GENERAL MEETING
INLAND EMPIRE FLY FISHING CLUB
MUKOGAWA FORT WRIGHT INSTITUTE
COMMONS**

**February 10, 2004
Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner: 6:30 p.m.**

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

By Pat Kendall

DO YOU JUST BELONG

Are you the active member,
The kind that would be missed,
Or are you just contented
That your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings,
And mingle with the crowd,
Or do you stay at home
And crab both long and loud?

Do you ever go to visit,
A member that is sick,
Or leave the work for just a few,
And talk about the clique?

There is quite a program scheduled
That means success if done,
And it can be accomplished
With the help of everyone.

So attend the meetings regularly,
And help with hand and heart,
Don't be just a member,
But take an active part.

Think this over, member,
Are we right or are we wrong?
Are you an active member?
Or do you just belong?

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

By Scott Mayfield

Once in a while you afforded the opportunity to meet an individual who is not only a student, but also a teacher of our sport. Art Lingren is one of these people -- a true sportsman and a gentleman. Mr. Lingren's life-long study of our sport has focused on the rich ancestry and richer contemporary of this home waters -- British Columbia. He has documented his knowledge of these waters, the fish, the flies and the fishermen in the following works:

Fly Patterns of Rodrick Haig-Brown

River Journal: Thompson River

Fly Patterns of British Columbia

Irresistible Waters: Fly Fishing in B.C. Throughout the Year

Steelhead River Journal: Dean

Famous British Columbia Fly Fishing Waters

River Journal: Kispiox (being printed)

Contemporary Fly Patterns of British Columbia (in-progress)

Mr. Lingren will share his knowledge and passion for our sport and his homeland with us. Art will be available to sign any books you may have and will bring a few along for purchase also.

Harry Karas and Bill Stroup will be at the tying desk with some of their favorite Canadian and local patterns.

I would like to thank all of the active members of our club, and specifically some of those that work under the radar.

Membership: Doug Brossoit

Publications: Bob Bates

Political Action/FFF: Jerry McBride

Morning Star Fish-out: Bill McElroy

Video Library: Harry Calhoun

Poacher: Mark Pinch

Fly Fishing School: Leon Buckles & Dick Odell

Legacy Committee: Dwight Tipton, George Potter
and Jim Turner

DUES – DUES – DUES

By Bob Bates

Everyone should be aware that your annual \$30 dues are due. That is why they call them dues. Our BY-LAWS say the following: “Membership dues are due January 1 and shall become delinquent March 1. Delinquent members shall forfeit all privileges of membership after March 1.” The first step will be to remove your name from the roster, the mailing list and make your number available. Three people are waiting to become members.

On a more positive note you can welcome these new members by moving from Regular to Associate Membership thereby making your number available. If you find it difficult to come to meetings or take part in club projects Associate Membership is available to you. You still receive *The Fly Leaf* and a copy of the Roster with your name in it, and you still may come to any meetings. Your dues are still \$30 to cover various costs. The only thing you lose is the right to vote in club elections. When you think about it, that is a tiny price to pay to let another member in.

If you can shift to an Associate Member contact Doug Brossoit, 468-7976, 8415 N Forest Blvd., Spokane, WA 99208
The dues still go to Jerry Cartwright, Treasurer, c/o IEFEC, PO Box 2926, Spokane, WA 99220-2926

NORTH FORK COEUR d'ALENE UPDATE

CUTTHROAT TROUT TRACKING AND HABITAT EVALUATION UPDATE

01/20/04

Joe Dupont, Fisheries Biologist for Idaho Department of Fish and Game

We are into the 8th month of tracking our radio tagged cutthroat trout. This study has been a great success as we have learned many things that we believe can help improve this fishery. During the summer, we saw extremely warm water temperatures $>78^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($>26^{\circ}\text{C}$), which led to some interesting findings. Most of the fish held tight to some type of cover and moved very little during this period. When viewing these fish underwater, it appeared to be a struggle for some of them as many were laying on the bottom gasping for oxygen. Fishing during this time of year would probably be terrible as most of the fish we saw were not feeding or leaving the cover. That's probably why we saw so few fishermen out during this time of year. A few fish made movements into side channels during this warm period, and to our surprise when we measured the water temperature it was $5-9^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($3-5^{\circ}\text{C}$) cooler than the main river. We've long known that side channels are important for juvenile and over-wintering fish, but finding out they can also provide a cool temperature refuge during summer is very important. This will only increase our efforts to help protect the floodplain in the lower river where side channels typically would be found. When we snorkeled one of the cooler side channels during the heat of the summer we saw probably over 800 fish (cutthroat trout, rainbow trout and mountain whitefish) in an 80-yard length of stream.

Another important aspect we learned is that the majority ($>75\%$) of the cutthroat we put radio transmitters in tended to remain in the same general area as they were tagged. For example fish that were tagged in the Little North Fork or Tepee Creek remained in those streams. In general, the fish tended to move downstream throughout the year but long migrations (> 10 miles), were uncommon. The importance of this finding is that our fishing regulations have set up catch-and-release areas in the upper half of the Coeur d'Alene River basin. There was some concern that many of the fish in the catch-and-release area would migrate downstream to where they could be harvested and essentially make this regulation ineffective. Based on our findings, the current regulations should accomplish what it set out to do, which is, provide a sizeable area where fish can grow old and large, as well as an area where limited harvest will be allowed for those who would like to keep a few fish for dinner.

Fishing regulations are only effective, if they are followed. This study has pointed out areas where poaching may be impacting the fishery. In a 20 mile section of the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River between the South Fork and the steel bridge, seven of our radio tagged fish spent over one month. Five or six of these fish were killed by fisherman, three of which were caught illegally. Based on this information, increased patrols by Fish and Game officers and increased education could help reduce this impact.

During the months of August and September, we were able to quantify habitat characteristics in most of the Coeur d'Alene River where our radio tagged fish occurred. These data will be very valuable in helping determine if certain types of habitat important to cutthroat trout are limited or not. This type of information will help direct future restoration projects in the basin. We have also pulled all of our thermographs (hourly temperature measuring device) that were put out for the study. These temperature data will tell us which stream reaches may provide cold-water refuges and which streams reaches may become too warm to support cutthroat trout during summer.

We currently are tracking 41 of the 66 cutthroat trout we originally tagged. Twenty-five of the fish have died from fisherman, predators, and unknown causes. The 41 fish we are still tracking should provide us valuable data on winter habitat use. In many systems it is believed that the quantity and quality of winter habitat often controls the number of cutthroat trout the system can

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FLY OF THE MONTH

Poppers

February, 2004

Gene Lorenson

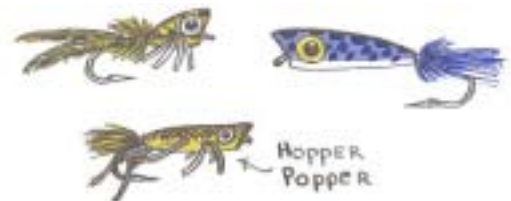
Mid winter, the weather's lousy, there's not much fishing activity going on, and Bob Bates is after a fly of the month. As I sit by the fire and contemplate my problem, a steady crackling noise is coming from the kitchen –the popcorn popper -- that's it! Poppers! I've never featured a popper in this column. They are easy to fabricate, they are lots of fun to fish, there's an infinite variety of patterns, and they are very effective. All kinds of fish, big and small, from sunfish to pike, bass, and crappie will fall for poppers. Trout can be enticed by them too. Try a grasshopper shaped popper on your favorite stream. I've even taken a silver salmon on a popper! I'll give some basic hints on producing these gurgling lures and the details are up to you, the tier.

Hook: Size to match popper

Body: Various sizes & shapes of foam or cork poppers

Legs: Rubber leg material

Tail: Hair, feather, marabou, etc.



1 Choose a hook to fit the popper body size. Remember to have enough gap and length to allow proper hooking and to allow room to tie on the tail.

2 Popper bodies can be purchased in many sizes and shapes. They are generally made of hard foam with a slot cut in the bottom. Long popper bodies can be cut into pieces to make several smaller ones. A fine craft saw or jeweler's saw works great. Depending on the angle of the cut, you can make them pop or dive.

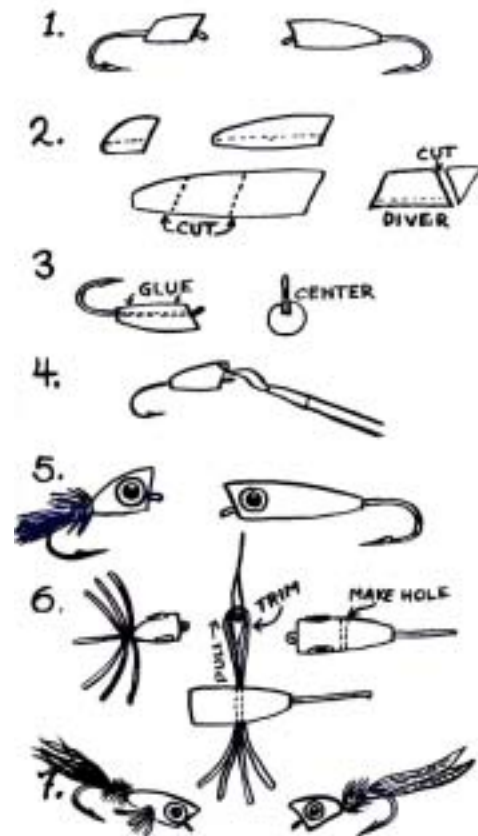
3 Attach the popper to the hook using your favorite glue. It's a good idea to line the hook shank with tying thread to make a snugger fit and make the glue hold better. Turn the hook upside down and fill groove with glue. Force the hook down into the slot and make sure the popper is centered on the hook. Leave it upside down until the glue dries.

4 Paint the popper with desired color and pattern. Plastic model paint works great and comes in any color you want.

5 Eyes add appeal to the popper (for both fisherman and fish). Various doll eyes, etc. can be glued to the side of the lure or eyes can be painted on.

6 Rubber legs are also a great addition to the poppers and add a lot of movement for fish enticement. They can be tied to the hook shank right behind the popper body or inserted in a hole made in the body itself. To make a hole for rubber legs use a very small drill or burn a hole through using a heated needle. Make sure the needle is really hot and make your hole quickly or the needle will stick in the foam. Use a bobbin threader to pull your rubber legs through the body.

7 Lots of stuff can be used to add a tail to the popper. Bunches of marabou, paired hackle feathers in a V shape, bucktail, rabbit



Continued from page 2

support. Currently, the fish we are tracking are still scattered throughout the basin and appear to be selecting areas with very slow water velocities. This may be good news as it does not appear that fish have to migrate long distances to find suitable habitat to overwinter in. Continued investigations are needed to further evaluate the quality of the winter habitat the cutthroat trout are selecting.

Even though we are still tracking fish, we are also starting our initial data analysis. We will be looking at movement and try to determine if there are any environmental variables that help predict movement. We will also look at habitat and cover use and relate that back to habitat availability within the river system. Our plan is to have a draft presentation by early April, which we will present to all the clubs.

We should all thank Earl Frizzel, Jerry McBride, and Judy Kaufman for their efforts in coordinating the volunteers for all phases of the study. We had a great contribution from all the clubs. Volunteers contributed over 80 days of their time to the project to date. There is still time to volunteer your help and get one of those nifty T-shirts, as we will continue tracking the cutthroat trout until June.

Advertisements Permitted

We have mentioned this in the past, but we will say it again. Any member may put a "For Sale" or "Wanted" ad into *The Fly Leaf*. Commercial ads or political ads are not permitted.

Contact Bob Bates 328-7327
bob-bates@worldnet.att.net

Notice

Who ever won the box of flies from "The Evening Hatch" in Ellensburg can now claim them by contacting Pat Kendall.

CAUTION

There is a move afoot to poach anyone who is not wearing his name badge. Let the newcomers know who you are. Then put the badge back into the holder when you go home.

E-mail Address Changes

Don Chinn dchinn04@comcast.net
Lowell Tveite LTveit@aol.com

Senate bill 6529 Section 24, states (requires) Fish and Wildlife Commission will appoint the Director and submit the nomination to the Senate for their advice and consent (approval). Sounds like another attempt to make the WDFW political again.

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CHARTER MEMBER and McKENZIE PLAQUE WINNER