September 2022 Fishout

By DAVE LONDEREE

September 17th was the date of the North Idaho Fly Casters last fishout of the year. We were camped at the Huckleberry Campground on the St. Joe River in campsite number 2. The fishing reports were mixed according to whom you were talking to. Most folks were happy with some very nice fish brought to the net.

Lunch of Smoked Pulled Pork and all the fixings was served at 2:30 Saturday afternoon. After the meal, most folks scattered to cast a few more times. This weekend the hot fly was a “Purple Haze”. This is a great time of year to be on the St. Joe (and all the rivers in our great state). The fish are hungry and plentiful.

We look forward to next season. I’ll see you at the club meeting.

Not Pictured: Mike Lippman, Pat Smith and Tom McLaughlin

STREAM KEEPERS:
Dave and Doris Londeree

Karen and Jeff Kvaternik, Gary Weister and Faye

Greg & Renee Blythe, Jack Hise and Craig Baumann
Finally, we have reached the hopper season, marking the end of summer. School is back in session and while the local traffic is higher, the highway traffic is lighter. We took advantage of this time to spend a week at Grand Teton National Park, where the traffic was evident, but not nearly as bad as the middle of summer.

We tried several creeks in the area, but water levels were low, and fishing was challenging to say the least. Jackson Lake was at its lowest point, which is common this time of year, as it supports local irrigation needs. The contrast with other lakes in the area was huge, as most of them were at normal levels. During the entire week we camped on Jackson Lake, we saw only one boat. The marinas were closed, as all docks were onshore and far from the water. There was no telling what that lone boat was doing out there, as they were only out for a couple of hours.

Checking in with local fly shops and our neighbors in the RV park, people were focused on a few of the nearby creeks. We checked them out and found most of them too low to fish, except for Pilgrim and Pacific Creeks. The latter was better in terms of water levels, and we found several pools and runs that held many smaller fish. There were a few fellow fly fishers but not enough to crowd us at any point.

The Snake River proved to be the best place to be. We enjoyed beautiful weather for the first half of the week. Rain appeared the last two days of the week, with most of it occurring overnight, and brief sprinkles during the day. Thankfully it did not impact our fishing.

Hoppers were numerous and very active. The fish attacked the fly quickly and often, even to the point where the strikes were violent. If the fish didn’t get the hopper on the first strike, it came back again – and this happened a couple of times!

Here are two pictures of one fly I used that was literally destroyed after thirty minutes and several strikes. It was amazing the damage done by fish that were not that large, as they were laser focused on grabbing a quick meal. I normally do not lose flies any other way except when I snag something. During this trip, the trout were punishing the flies and forcing us to change flies because pieces of the foam and legs were torn off!

The cutthroat trout ranged from 8-14 inches and were numerous making this trip fun and memorable. This was our third trip to Grand Teton National Park and we are looking forward to visiting again next year!

As a side story, a young couple were fishing alongside us on the Snake River. She chose to watch her husband, who had never fly fished before. He normally fishes off the coast of San Diego and has always admired fly fishing after hearing about it from friends. He rented a rod, reel, waders, and boots, and purchased some flies from a local shop. From that point he began to flail water for a while before we met.

Somewhat shy he finally asked me for some advice (at this point Theresa, my wife, had caught two fish and I was prepping my rod). Rather than focus on fly casting and acknowledging that the fish were active, we decided to change his fly from whatever he was using (I honestly couldn’t recognize the pattern) to a red Copper John. Within five minutes he snagged a large fish. He was able to bring that fish almost to the shore.
before it threw the hook and swam away. Judging by the size of the fins that fish had to be close to 18 inches.

It could have been that he didn’t handle the rod and line properly, or the fact that I only deal in barbless hooks (I may have left that out when I gave it to him!). However, the smile on his face was priceless. That’s what makes us fly fishers and it was great to see another convert! Over the next two hours he was appreciative and more curious, asking several questions about techniques and flies. I offered him a membership application, but I think San Diego is too far away for him to attend our meetings!

Finally speaking, we hope to see you all at this month’s meeting on October 20th. Summer’s over and its time to see friends again!
CLUB NEWS

THE NEXT CLUB PROGRAM

NIFC holds dinner meetings from September through May on the third Thursday of each month.

**October 20, 2022**
Coeur d’Alene Inn
506 W. Appleway Avenue
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

Wet Fly Hour at 5:00PM
Dinner at 6:00PM
Speaker at 7:00PM

Guest Speakers:
Daniel Ritz,
Communications and Outreach Coordinator
Idaho Wildlife Federation
and
Kyle Maki,
North Idaho Field Coordinator
Idaho Wildlife Federation

******RSVP Please*****
Reservations and dinner choices can be made by emailing craigpbaumann@gmail.com
Dinner options for the October 20th meeting are Pork Marsala OR a Vegetarian option.
The price for dinner is $21.

**Deadline for reservations is Monday, October 17th at 9:00AM. Please indicate your menu choice.**

Please pay for dinner at the door with cash, check or card. A 75 cent card-use fee will be added on.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2022-2023 club dues can be paid at the next monthly meeting or by mailing them to:

North Idaho Fly Casters
P.O. Box 1698
Coeur d’Alene, ID 83816-1698

**Annual Membership Dues:**
$30.00 Family/Single/Senior
$50.00 Corporate/Business
The membership year is September 2021 through August 2022.

NEW MEMBERS
Lamar Bennett

MERCHANDISE

To order something with the NIFC Logo printed on it, call Adam Mills at (719) 469-9891.

RAFFLES

Dave Gillmor was not able to attend the September meeting so many thanks go to Howard Fennimore for stepping up and taking over. The winners were Tom Black, Fly fishing net from unknown club member, waders & vest from Nancy Whitt. Mike Stiner, picture from unknown member, Flies from Paul Eldredge, Montana river map and a Bob Jacklin video from Roger Grigg and a Casting For Recovery shirt from Kathy Grigg. Skip Quade, Fly Reel from Jim Rogers, Fly Tying materials from the club. Dave Londeree, Lake Flies and Apex lures from Fins & Feathers. Tom McLaughlin, Books donated by Jim Bgles. Bob Holman, Fly Tying materials from Bob Clark. Matt Albaugh Book on Modern fly-tying materials from Dick West.

We look forward to this month’s raffle. The Christmas meeting is coming soon. This is a major fund-raising event for the club. If you have items you would like to donate (they don’t have to be fishing related) call Dave Gillmor at (208) 920-9000 to let him know so he can be prepared or can pick them up if needed.
Submitted by Dave Londeree

FLY OF THE MONTH BOOKLET

If you are a fly tier or want to be, this is the book for you. A collection of five years of the Fly of the Month in booklet form. Cover to cover filled with flies from Jim Rogers and a few from Dave Londeree. It can be yours for $25.00 + postage or pick them up at the club meeting. Contact: Dave Londeree
dlonderee@roadrunner.com
208-946-6631

The September 2022 NIFC meeting speaker was Mr. Brad Corkill. Brad was the former Commissioner for Idaho Fish and Game. His talk was mainly about his running for Commissioner at North Idaho Collage. When questioned he did answer several questions about IDF&G.
# CALENDAR

**October 2022**

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**Come Join Us for the Fly Fishing Event of the Year**

**November 4-6, 2022**

These days $25 hardly covers lunch and a few flies—forget about gas money and beverages. But $25 will get you access to over 100 fly fishing workshops, presentations, and demonstrations when you register for the FFI Virtual Expo. This online-only event takes place November 4-6, 2022.

Registration is limited to 1,500 participants—$25 for members and $60 for non-members which includes a $35 FFI membership. Some workshops require an additional fee and have limited space; others are taking place before the Virtual Expo begins. Don’t miss out!

**REGISTER NOW**
EXTENDED BODY GREEN DRAKE

HOOK: SCUD (Dai Rike 135) Size 12
THREAD: Olive 6/0
TAIL: Moose body hair
PARACHUTE: White Widows Web
THROAX: Olive fine dubbing
LEGS: Med. Round rubber
HACKLE: Olive died Grizzly

TYING STEPS:
1. Mash the barb flat and mount the hook in your vise.
2. Dress the hook with the thread from the eye to the start of the bend.
3. Cut a clump of the moose hair. Clean the underfur and stack the hair to even the tips.
4. Remove the hair from your stacker. You will need a little more than 1/8” dia. clump cut the hair at the butts to be ¾” long.
5. Tie the moose hair on top of the hook at the mid-point of the hook. Bind it tight and add a drop of head cement at that point.
6. Wrap the extended body/tail with open wraps to about 1/8” of the end of the hair. Reverse the wraps and spiral back down to the base of the hair. (I find it easier to turn the hook in the vise so the hair is standing straight up.)
7. With a bodkin or tooth pick coat the body/tail with head cement. Form the tail to the desired bend. Let it dry.
8. Cut a clump of Widows Web to make the parachute. Attach it on top of the hook in front of the body hair. Hold the parachute straight up and form a thread dam in front of the parachute to keep it standing up. Wrap several turns up and down the base to “post” the parachute.
9. Make a dubbing noodle and form a thorax at the base of the body to the hook eye and parachute.
10. Pluck a hackle from the skin. Remove about 1/8” of the barbules from the stem. Tie the stem to the post of the parachute and make 7 or 8 turns to make the wing ending the wraps at the base of the parachute.
11. Take a few wraps of thread to bind the hackle. A few drops of head cement on the thread will help keep everything together. Whip finish at the base of the parachute.

Good things come to those who tie.
FLY TYING WITH TROOP 201
By DAVE LONDEREE

On September 13th and 20th NIFC members were working with Coeur d'Alene Boy Scout troop 201 as they were getting ready for a fly-fishing trip to Kelly Creek. Jack Hise and I worked with the scouts on their casting on Tuesday the 13th. Tuesday the 20th was fly tying with the help of Chuck Lies, Gary Tarvin, Bob Holman, Dave Gillmor, Jack Hise and me. All in all, the guys did a good job of tying a Black Foam Beetle. Their Scout Master, Mr. Mike Dolan will have his hands full. We wish them well.

FOR SALE
BUCKS BAG PONTOON BOAT
If you have always wanted a really nice Pontoon Boat. Bucks Bag is one of the best. Here is a complete outfit, with anchor system with line, oars, flippers and storage bags. All this for $275.00 (OBO). Call Rob Hadacek (419) 306-3667 or Dave Londeree (208) 946-6631.
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Newsletter Proofreader
Leslie Balsley
425-785-0511
RLBalsley@comcast.net

New Club Name Badges Available

You may have noticed club members sporting new name badges adorned with the club logo and the owner’s name. These badges are beautiful, a real work of art. To order one of these new badges, please contact Adam Mills at (719) 469-9891 or ak.mills2344@gmail.com and let him make an order to the North Idaho Trophy Co. We can get a break in cost if we order in higher quantities. The cost is about $15 with a magnetic fastener and about $12 with a pin back. An alligator type clip may be attached to the pin for an additional 80 cents.

“I always wondered why somebody didn’t do something about that. Then I realized... I was somebody!”
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