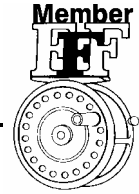




# THE *FLYCASTER*



Northern Arizona Flycasters – December 2007

An Active Member Club of the Federation of Fly Fishers and Eastern Rocky Mountain Council  
“Conservation, Restoration and Education Through Fly Fishing”

**General and Board Meetings at:  
Game and Fish building, 3500 S. Lake Mary Road at 7pm**

**President’s Drift:**

**Next Meeting December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
Board Meeting January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Thanks to Clark Dierks and Dan Hodler for two outstanding programs in November. The casting clinic on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Dan’s knot tying class at the Wednesday’s meeting. Now we know just how good our knots really are and what we need to do to improve them. I’m looking forward to their future programs. Baja Anglers will be our guest speaker at the December 5th meeting this should prove to be a very interesting program.

I would like to welcome Todd Rovelstad to the Board of Directors and to the Vice President’s position, your help and enthusiasm will be appreciated.

If you have not renewed your membership you need to as soon as possible. (52% of the members have not) If you know somebody who would like to join the club, please encourage them to attend a monthly meeting then joining. Like you, I run into people all the time that say they always wanted to learn to fly fish but don’t know where to go to get started. What better way than with us. Hope to see all of you at the next meeting.

Warren

## **Conservation Corner:**

Club members not attending the November meeting are probably unaware that Federation of Fly Fishers has received a \$53,000 grant for our work on restoring Gila Trout into West Fork Oak Creek.

FFF Conservation Coordinator, Leah Elwell, with assistance from Julie Meka, AZ Game and Fish, are responsible for obtaining this much needed funding. Funds will be used primarily to develop the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) report which is the next step in the process. This report is normally the responsibility of the US Forest Service; however resources have simply been inadequate to accomplish this task. Hopefully this funding will provide adrenalin to get this project back on track.

The next meeting of the West Fork Group will be December 6, 9:30 AM at AZ Game and Fish office. All are Welcome to attend. Leah Elwell will be present and will also attend our club meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

Hope all had a good Thanksgiving!

Dick Brown  
Conservation Chairman

## **Education:**

Dan Hodler has volunteered to help Clark with Member and Public Education, they are asking for suggestions. What are you interested in learning. Phone numbers e-mail information for both are On the back page.

## **The Education Riffle:**

### **How to release a trout.**

How many times have you watched someone tug, drag, squeeze, fail to return to the water quickly, or otherwise harm a trout they just caught? Of course, no member of NAF would do such a thing but I see it often when I fish.

Trout have delicate gills and internal organs and are covered with a protective slime. The removal of this slime will cause the development of a fungus eventually killing the trout.

Never touch a fish if you do not have to. Just remove the fly and let it swim away. Using small pliers or forceps will facilitate hook removal. If the fly appears difficult to remove, cut it off and release the fish.

If you must touch the trout, wet your hands first. Gently turn the fish on its side or completely upside down. Try to do this in the net if you use one. Never squeeze the fish or put your fingers in its gills.

Exhausted trout will turn over on its side or upside down so never release a tired trout in strong current. It will be carried away and die. Hold it upright facing into a gentle current until it gets its gills working and swims away on its own. This may take some time but so what.

There are pros and cons of using a net. I use one. If you use one, buy the type with the rubber netting. This netting will remove the least amount of the protective slime.

If the trout is large and becomes exhausted while downstream from you, do not attempt to pull it to you. Walk down to it. Pulling it toward you will either break your tippet or rip the hook out of the fish.

There are people in NAF with years of experience and may have additional thoughts on this matter. Don't be afraid to ask them.

Clark

## **Outings:**

Dave Grubb, and Guy Baldwin are finalizing club sponsored outings. Lee's Ferry in the spring, Cyclone Lake in the White Mountains, June or July and of course the annual San Juan trip in October. Details will be published as soon as dates are confirmed.

## **Current e-Mail/USPO Addresses:**

Please keep Leo LaBranch [leophoenix2@aol.com](mailto:leophoenix2@aol.com) informed when USPO or e-mail addresses change. If you wish an on line copy of the newsletter let Tresa know. [tresa@intergate.com](mailto:tresa@intergate.com)



## **Colorado River, Lees Ferry update Mark Steffen**

The AGF and other government agencies (NPS, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center, US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of reclamation) had a meeting on Wednesday November 28th at the Marble Canyon Lodge at 4:00 p.m. Following is a short summary of the

discussion.

Good News- The NPS has stopped it's Bright Angel Creek trout killing project. This may be temporary; it was supposed to continue for the next four years. I don't think they will make this public and I think the reason is that the Arizona Game and Fish Department did not want the NPS killing rainbow trout and only wanted brown trout killed. The NPS thought they could kill any trout they wanted to and this issue is now part of a states rights issue as to who controls wildlife in National Parks.

BAD NEWS- The Department of the Interior is considering another flood release from Glen Canyon dam for March 2008. The last flood was in November 2004 and it was very bad for the Lees Ferry trout fishery. This past Wednesday there was a meeting at Lees Ferry with Marble Canyon lodge owners, Lees Ferry fishing guides, NAF (Me), National Park Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Canyon Monitoring and Research Center, and the Western Area Power Administration. The Government was told in strong terms that a flood in March of 2008 would not be a good idea. A compromise of a flood in January or July was suggested to the government folks and was turned down for 2008 but may be considered for 2009.

Mark will have a more detailed report for the General meeting in December and the Board Meeting in January

**Renewal Form**

**Compete and send check to:**

**Northern Arizona Flycasters**

**PO Box 2924, Flagstaff AZ 86003 or**

**Bring completed form and cash or Check to the December meeting**

CONSERVATION, RESTORATION AND EDUCATION THROUGH FLY FISHING

Membership application

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Regular    Family    Student Renewal    New

Member Referred by \_\_\_\_\_

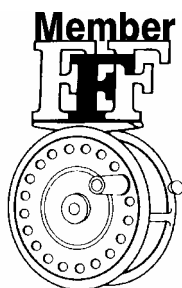
Do not share information with any affiliates or related businesses or corporations.

Regular	\$30.00
Family (Parents and Children Under 18)	\$40.00
Student	\$10.00

## Calendar of Events

## NAF Club Officers/Committee Chairs

December 5	Regular Monthly Meeting	President / Programs– Warren White	928-526-3585 or <a href="mailto:wwhite@empire-cat.com">wwhite@empire-cat.com</a>
December 10	Lie and Tie at Peace Surplus	Vice President – Todd Rovelstad	928-607-2606
December 19	No Board Meeting	Secretary - Ron Sutter	928-522-5642
January 2	Regular Monthly Meeting	Treasurer – Gary Tallman	928-527-1736
January 14	Lie and Tie at Peace Surplus	Membership – Leo LaBranche	928-526-2987
January 16	Board Meeting	Conservation- Dick Brown	928-606-4349 or <a href="mailto:Rjmabrown@aol.com">Rjmabrown@aol.com</a>
Give Peace a call if you plan on attending Lie and Tie so enough pizza and drinks can be ordered		Web Master- Dave Schurz	928 220-0921 or <a href="mailto:dave@formmagic.com">dave@formmagic.com</a>
		Public and Member Education -	
		Clark Dierks	928-556-1545 or <a href="mailto:clarkr@npgcable.com">clarkr@npgcable.com</a>
		Dan Hodler	928-714-1818 or <a href="mailto:dhodler@commspeed.com">dhodler@commspeed.com</a>
		Meeting Raffles - Don Ellerman	928-814-0221
		Outings – Dave Grubb	928-522-5697
		Meeting Location - Paul Weitz	928-527-3861
		Newsletter – Tresa Ronco	928-526-3585 or <a href="mailto:tresa@intergate.com">tresa@intergate.com</a>
		Banquet Committee – Greg Neal, Frank Ronco, Ron Sutter, Bob Mankowski, Paul Weitz	
		Budget Committee- Gary Tallman, Bob Mankowski, Ron Sutter, Tresa Ronco, Greg Neal	
		Conservation Committee- Dick Brown, Frank Ronco, Paul Weitz	



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