



The *Tippet*

December, 2010

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



December Speaker: Jen Bruns, “Opportunities to Volunteer with the Idaho Fish and Game in the Clearwater Region”



Jen Bruns Biography: I grew up in central North Dakota spending most of my time outdoors. During the summer nights, I liked to catch fireflies and crawfish. During the day, when I wasn't in school, I would take my bike down to the nearest fishing hole to try my luck at spinner fishing for walleye or Northern Pike. It didn't matter if it was fishing in the summer from the dock, from our family boat or through the ice in the winter- I enjoyed it! My mom seemed to always know that I would choose natural resources as a career field.

After high school graduation, I ventured west to attend college at the University of Idaho. During the summer months, I worked various fisheries technician positions. I worked with the Fish and Wildlife service in Alaska, US Forest Service in Montana, Idaho Fish and Game, and Department of Environmental Quality. From October 2004-February 2005, I was stationed at McMurdo station, Antarctica. During my stay, I had the opportunity to conduct an internship with Raytheon Polar Services. I assisted a research team from the University of Southern California with a research project studying sea urchin *Sterechinus neumayeri* and sea star *Acodontaster hodgsoni* in cold water environments. I was able to acquire credits from the internship to apply to my college degree.

Following the Antarctic experience, I returned to Moscow to finish my undergraduate degree. In May 2006, I graduated with a B.S. degree in Conservation Social Science with a minor in Nature Conservation. Upon graduation, I worked as a outdoor field instructor at the McCall Outdoor Science School. I taught 5th and 6th grade students from across Idaho. Our teaching program focused on a week-long science curriculum. We spent a day on terrestrial ecology, a day on aquatic ecology and a day and a half on student-conducted research projects and peer presentations. I completed the program in November 2006, with a graduate certificate in Environmental Education.

Since December 2006, I have worked for Idaho Fish and Game in Lewiston as the Clearwater region volunteer coordinator. I really have enjoyed working with many active volunteers, several of them from the CFC group. I look forward to continuing to build the volunteer program and work to increase fisheries habitat in our region.

Calendar

Nov 30: Fly Tying Night, Moscow Title, 6:30 to 9:00 PM

Dec 8: CFC Meeting, Jennifer Bruns, Volunteer Opportunities with Idaho Fish and Game

Dec 28: Fly Tying Night, Moscow Title, 6:30 to 9:00 PM

Information

The Tippet is available as a PDF file on our web site. Please submit information to the Newsletter Editor.

Meetings 2nd Wed:

Wet Fly Hour: 5:30 PM

Dinner: 6:30 PM

(buffet, \$16 per person)

Program: 7:30 PM



My interest remains in anything outdoors, especially fishing. I enjoyed a recent flyfishing/camping trip on the Coeur d'Alene river targeting Idaho's state fish *Oncorhynchus clarkii*. My catch rate was low (okay, actually zero), but I enjoyed being on the river in beautiful northern Idaho!

I look forward to talking with all of you at the CFC December meeting. Until then!

Editor's Note: The picture is of Jens with a nice Clearwater Steelhead, a fish that would bring that smile to any of our faces!

Backcast to November Meeting

Guest: Dave Harvey, President, Crown Enterprises, Inc., new owners of Tri-State.

Fishing Reports: Dave Uberuaga drove over Hoodoo Pass, and a wolf ran in front of his vehicle. Water was high on Marble Creek, but he fished the St. Joe. Dave Harvey reported on Hauser Lake, where the fish and game people stock trout every year at the same two campgrounds. The fish imprint on their dump spots and return as adults from the lake each year. There are 3-8 lb fish there, which can be taken on nymphs. It's a lot like salmon fishing, with lots of people. Some can catch fish and many don't have the knack or right flies. Andy Kleinhofs reported the steelheading slow at the moment. Lynn Youngblood said he nearly froze on the St. Joe in November, when he and Kay fished above and below Avery. They caught a few fish each day. Jim Palmersheim reported that steelheading was hot above Orofino but not on the Snake. Paul Agidius reported that big trout in the 7 to 9 lb range were coming out of Silver Creek. David Yonge caught lots of big fish on The Joe this summer on nymphs, a first for him. Marion was a witness. He spent a couple days on the Clark Fork as well, and caught a few fish. David and his son Benjamin finally took their long-delayed backpacking trip this summer, going into the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness off Highway 12 near the state line. The first day they took the wrong trail and ended up back near the truck. The second day they found a can of bear spray on a rock in a small stream, and David got it on his hands and then his face. He thought he was going to need emergency treatment before he finally got it washed off. They did make it to the lake and even caught some fish.

Announcements: John Reed asked the club to tell him and Dave Harvey what they would like to see in fly fishing gear at Tri-State. He passed around a sheet for member comments. Lavon Frazier pointed out the fliers on the tables for the showing of the film *Ghost Bird*, which will be presented at the Palouse Audubon Society meeting on Wednesday, November 17, at 7:30 p.m., at the 1912 Building in Moscow.

November Speaker: Zach Penney, "Nez Perce Tribe Clearwater River Coho Restoration Project "

Zach introduced his wife who accompanied him to the meeting. He told about getting a job with the Nez Perce, after his experiences in Alaska and British Columbia, to help out on their Coho restoration project. He thought he was going to be a technician, but he turned out to be the project leader. The Coho is known as the k'ool-eye (Little Salmon) in Nez Perce, and it once was found in significant numbers throughout the Clearwater River drainage. Then, with the introduction of Harpster Dam on the South Fork in 1910, followed by the Lewiston Dam in 1927, this all started to change. Eventually, the Coho were extirpated from the entire drainage. The first attempts at reintroduction were between 1962 and 1968. This produced a few fish for a few years in some streams, but by 1986 they were again declared extirpated.

The Nez Perce obtained surplus eggs from the lower Columbia River system in 1994, and they developed a master plan to try and restore Coho to provide harvest for both the tribe and the non-tribal public. The State of Idaho prohibited the import of eggs at first, but they came to agreement with the tribe in 1996. The federal hatchery at Dworshak gave the tribe space to hatch the eggs, and further production, rearing and imprinting facilities were provided at Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (NFH), Eagle Creek NFH (in Oregon) and Clearwater Fish Hatchery (across the river from Dworshak NFH).

One of the problems with rearing Coho is that they eat too much and grow too fast, even at low water temperatures.

Now, Potlatch Corporation is also rearing Coho for release. Releases are made each year, and much of the current work involves monitoring and evaluation. There were approximately 5000 adult returns in both 2008 and 2009, but so far the returns seem to be down in 2010. The reasons are not known, but they probably have to do with the ocean environment for these fish. They go different places and prefer in-shore environments more than other salmonids. Thus, their returns may not follow those for steelhead and other salmon species.

The tribe plans to reduce the dependence on Lower Columbia River stocks. Now, there are some problems with straying, but that could be a good thing for reintroducing runs into a big drainage like the Clearwater. For example, there is a sustaining run up the Toucannon River, which was unintended. They hope to increase the Clearwater returning adults to attain 14,000 a year. A month imprint time seems sufficient. There are problems with Dworshak. There was a recent incident where over a thousand fish were lost in a turbine, and there are a lot of problems with disease at the hatchery there.

Luke Caldwell and Clearwater Chinook

Note from Tim Cavileer: Here's a picture of Luke Caldwell holding a Chinook on the Clearwater. He was fishing with Jim Nagler last Sunday (Nov 7th). They caught just the one during the morning but hooked into another. He said it was okay to use it in the newsletter.



Parasol Emerger PMD by Kelly Glissmeyer

<http://www.flyangleronline.com/fotw/2010/fotw20101108.php>

Jim Schollmeyer and Ted Leeson presented an article on the use of a new concept in fly tying and described the tying and use of flies called Parasol Emergers. There is an article on how to fish these flies in the current *Flyfishing & Tying Journal*, Winter 2010, 'Spring Creek Strategies: Fishing the Parasol Emerger as a slow-water indicator' by Kelly Glissmeyer. Kelly's tying instructions can be found at the above web site.

Hook: DaiRiki 125 size #16
Thread: 8/0 Cahill Yellow
Tail: Rust Simi-seal dubbing tied in as shuck
Abdomen: Rust Goose Biot tied rough
Thorax: PMD Super Fine dubbing
Wingcase: Brown Thinskin
Wing/Legs: PMD CDC
Post: 2X mono
Parasol puff: Para Post Wing

Some tips from Kelly's tying instructions:

- Use 2x mono for the parasol post
 - Use some type of cement to finish the thread wraps over the mono post
 - For mayfly patterns, tie in the shellback just ahead of the post (hook eye side) prior to wrapping thorax section
 - Use a good quality fly floatant on the parasol puff to enhance floatation
 - To use the Parasol Emerger as an indicator, tie the trailer fly tippet to the bend of the hook on the parasol fly
- Editor's Note: I would have trouble seeing a gray parasol on most water. Would a white or bright one scare the fish away?



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Clearwater Fly Casters

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CFC membership dues are \$20/yr for individuals, \$30/yr for families, \$10/yr for students, \$50/yr sustaining, \$300/lifetime. Meetings are on the 2nd Wednesday, September through May, at the Best Western University Inn, 1516 Pullman Rd, Moscow, Idaho. Wet Fly Hour 5:30 PM, Dinner at 6:30 PM and Program at 7:30 PM.