



The Tippet

March 2021

Clearwater Fly Casters

www.clearwaterflycasters.com

A Federation of Fly Fishers Club



Zoom Meeting

The club will hold its second Virtual Meeting via Zoom on March 10, 2021. The Zoom meeting site will be opened at 6:00 PM to allow time for members to logon and meet and greet members. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM with fishing reports, committee reports and a few brief announcements.

The formal presentation at 7:00 PM entitled "**The last best place for recovery**" will be a discussion of salmon and steelhead policy as well as outreach and engagement in the Snake River basin by:

Eric Crawford, North Idaho Field Coordinator, Angler Conservation Project, Trout Unlimited.



Abstract – Snake River basin salmon and steelhead returns are at historic lows. Learn about the factors that affect their abundance and why the Snake River basin is the last best place to restore and recover these icons of the Northwest.

To Join the Meeting Follow Directions Provided by Zoom:

Either click on the link provided or enter the Meeting ID and passcode into your Zoom app. The Meeting can also be accessed by mobile phone as indicated below.

Topic: Clearwater Fly Casters Monthly Meeting

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428354858?pwd=OUdGbkdQQ2djUi9qaFM4N1huWDI3dz09>

Meeting ID: 874 2835 4858

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One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 874 2835 4858

Passcode: 413033

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87428354858>

Back Cast:

Buck Ryan, Executive Director, Snake River Waterkeeper discussed advocacy for clean water and the effects of the four Snake river dams on fish passage and survival.

Our first virtual meeting via Zoom was well attended with upwards of 26 member participants, as shown in the photo below. Buck provided compelling information on the effects of the dams on water temperatures, fish passage and consequences for anadromous fish. He also discussed other sources of pollution of the water shed and efforts his organization is making toward rectifying and mitigating the sources of pollution.

Important Dates and Events:

March 10, 2021. Zoom Meeting starting at 6:00 PM with members logging on to the meeting, fishing reports followed by a presentation by **Eric Crawford** / North Idaho Field Coordinator, Trout Unlimited.

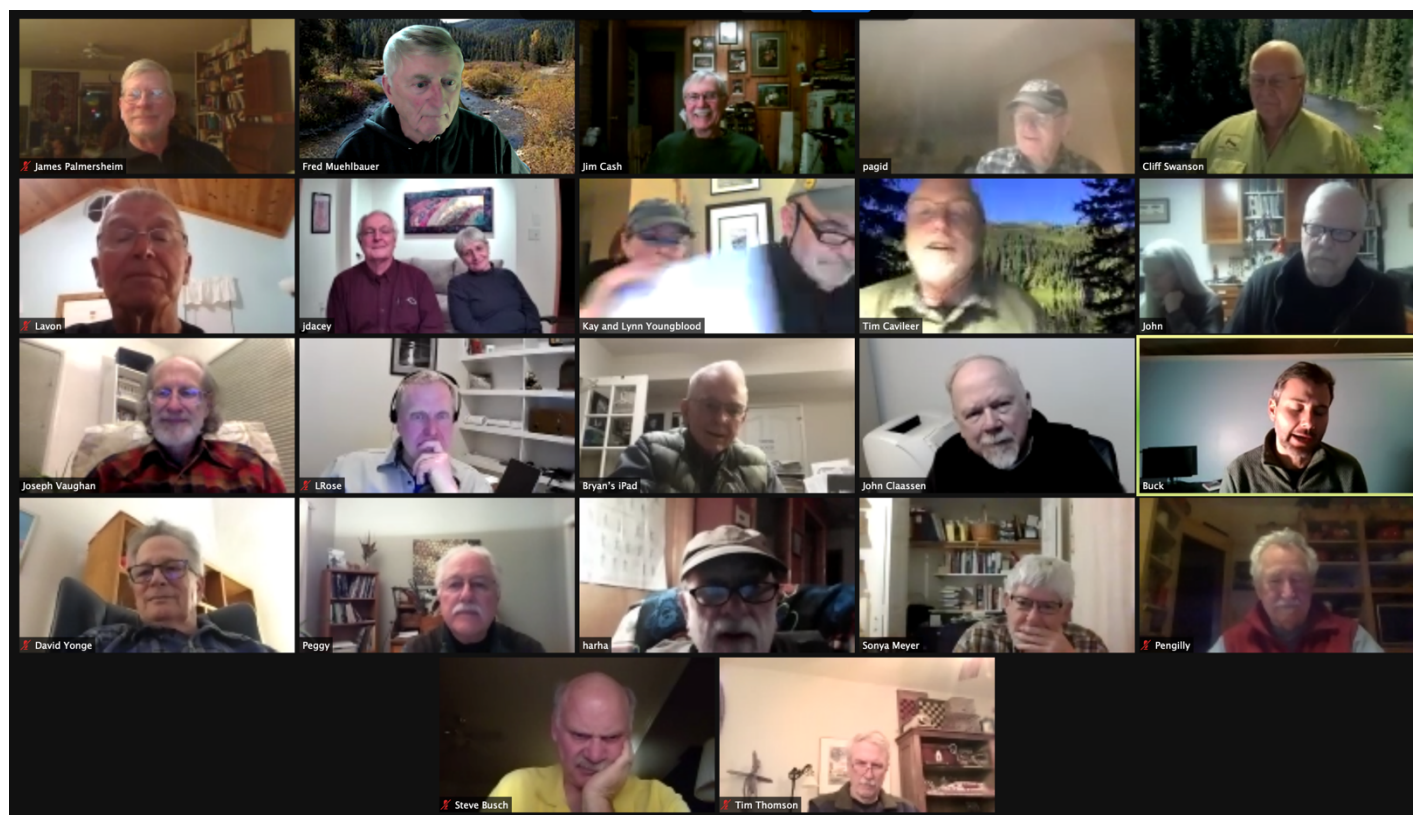
April 14, 2021. Club Zoom Meeting starting at 6:00 PM

May 1, 2021: Amber Lake Fish Out

May 2021: Potluck at Tharp's in Palouse, WA (Date and time to be determined and subject to Covid-19 restrictions)

June 18-19, 2021: North Fork Coeur d'Alene Fish Out, Meet at Devils' Elbow Campground.

July 9-10, 2021: St. Joe Fish Out, Fly Flat Campground



General Club Information:

May Potluck. Dave and Sharon Tharp have graciously offered to hold a potluck event at their place in Palouse sometime in May. The event will be subject to restrictions regarding Covid-19. Further information on this potential event will appear in the April Tippet.

Scholarships. Cliff Swanson received three scholarship applications from students at the University of Idaho. The applications were recently reviewed by the Executive Committee resulting in the award of a scholarship to William Lubenau who is a fisheries graduate student working towards a Master of Science Degree. The purpose of his project is to estimate the proportion of the wild steelhead population that is caught and released by anglers (encounter rate) and to estimate how well steelhead survive after being caught and released. The study is focused on the Snake, Salmon, and Clearwater rivers, but also includes Snake River tributaries in Washington and Oregon. The successful recipient will receive a scholarship of \$1500 and will make a brief presentation describing his project at an upcoming club meeting.

Fly Casting Instruction. Robin Barnes of Moscow High School is requesting assistance with Fly Casting instruction and hopes to begin in early May; however, everything is on hold due to Covid concerns.

Calendars. Steve Bush still has two calendars available for sale at his Moscow office. Two versions of the calendar are: "This is What Fly Fishing Teaches Us and "The Art of the Fly."

Beans & Jeans. a Habitat for Humanity organization, will hold an on-line auction and a take-out barbecue dinner from Saturday April 10th to Saturday April 17th. The barbecue will be provided by Birch and Barley restaurant in Pullman. For additional details on this event, see page 6 of this Newsletter.

Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) Banquet The CCA annual banquet originally scheduled for the Holiday Inn in Clarkston has been postponed until fall.

Next Executive Committee Meeting. Our next Virtual Executive Committee meeting will be April 6th at 6:00 pm. Any member wishing to participate in the upcoming meeting of the Committee should contact Fred Muehlbauer for information needed to access the meeting via Zoom.

Membership

Membership Chair, Paul Agidius, indicated we currently have only about 14 members who have paid their dues for the 2020-2022 membership period. Given the fact that we are unable to hold general meetings due to Covid-19, it was agreed that membership dues paid in 2020 will also cover dues for 2021. Thus, members will have two years of membership for the cost of one year of dues. Members are encouraged to renew their membership by sending a check for their dues to Lynn Youngblood, P.O. Box 394, Pullman, Washington 99163. **CFC membership dues are \$25/yr. for individuals, \$35/yr. for families, \$10/yr. for students, \$50/yr. sustaining, and \$300/lifetime.**

Upon renewal, members will receive a 50th Anniversary Clearwater Fly Casters club pin.

Conservation Committee:



Legislative Update – February 25, 2021

We are nearly half-way through the 2021 legislative session and have several updates to provide on CCA Washington's advocacy efforts on behalf of conservation and recreational angling.

Despite challenging conditions due to COVID, we've made maintaining our advocacy efforts in Olympia a key priority. Please consider [donating to CCA today](#) in support of this work and stay tuned for additional updates and Action Alerts as we enter the final stages of the legislative session.

Columbia River Gillnets

Following a December 2020 [work session](#) of the Senate Natural Resources Committee where WDFW Director Kelly Susewind finally [conceded that gillnets aren't selective and don't help us maintain hatchery production](#), CCA has been working to hold WDFW and the Commission accountable for their September decision to reduce selective recreational fisheries by as much as 25% to return non-selective gillnets to the mainstem Columbia River during the spring, summer and fall seasons. An unlikely coalition of organizations [came out against](#) the Commission decision and urged Governor Inslee and Oregon Governor Kate Brown to block the reckless policy decision that was orchestrated by WDFW Commissioner Donald McIsaac.

Governor Inslee's WDFW budget request included \$1.1 million for a Columbia River gillnet buyback, but the program does not appear to be connected to any gill net policy reforms. Instead, the gillnet fleet would receive over \$1 million in public funds while also benefiting from an expansion in mainstem gillnetting under the Commission's September policy decision. Last year, Governor Inslee vetoed a \$550,000 buyback that was tied to an actual reduction in active gillnetting.

CCA already sent [a letter](#) to WDFW opposing this type of gillnet industry subsidy and have shared our concerns with legislators who oppose WDFW's alarming Columbia River gillnet policies -- including the nearly 40 [Senators](#) and [Representatives](#) who wrote in opposition to the Commission's policy. WDFW Director Kelly Susewind [previously dismissed these letters](#) by claiming that legislative opinion was mixed on Columbia River gillnets, but when [asked](#) wouldn't name a single legislator that supported the Commission's misguided decision.

Fly of the Month: “Improved Sparkle Dun (BWO)”

HOOK : Dry Fly, Tiemco 100 or equivalent,
size : 14,16,18,20,22,24
Thread : Uni-thread Olive Dun 8/0
Tail/Shuck: Zelon.
Abdomen: Olive Dun tying thread or BWO
Goose biot or Olive dubbing
Thorax: Olive dubbing
Wing: Zelon and Comparadun deer dyed dun

This is a simple and extremely effective pattern from Mike Lawson at Blue Ribbon Flies. Easy to tie, even in small sizes (necessary for BWO) this improved version has one small modification with the zelon that makes it float higher and longer and also makes it more visible. That is very important on small flies.



Mount debarbed hook in vise. Note: Most flies benefit from as few as possible thread wraps and smooth flat turns. To accomplish this using the smallest thread size that is practical is the first step. In addition, most threads will flatten by rotating in a counter-clockwise fashion. Tie in, extend the thread to a length that will allow the bobbin to hang without touching the counter. Spin counterclockwise and you will see the thread widen and flatten. This is virtually a standard practice in tying all flies. You will also need to continue to spin as you wrap, because the act of wrapping put turns back in. Tie thread on, starting two eye lengths from eye and advance in tight touching turns to above the hook barb. Return the hook in tight touching turns to the tie in point and let the bobbin hang.

Select a small clump of deer hair, trim from hide and clean away the underfur. Stack and tie in at the one third mark on top of the hook shank. Be careful not to spin or let the hair rotate on the hook. The length is about the same as the hook shank, Secure the deer by tying toward the hook bend. Do not worry about standing the hair at this time. Let the bobbin hang at the one third mark.

Select a hank of zelon, square cut one end, to even the tips. Tie in at the same spot as the deer and leave the square cut end even with the tips of the deer hair. Continue to tie in the zelon moving in tight, touching turns to the hook bend, stopping above the barb. Trim the zelon to slightly less than the length of the hook shank.

Advance the thread in tight, touching turns to the deer hair. Lift a section of zelon and deer and holding up and slightly back make one or two turns of thread. Repeat going forward until all the deer/zelon are upright and secure. Let the bobbin hang.

Select BWO dry fly, fine dubbing and form a small noodle. Wrap the dub around the wing in a figure eight finishing in front of the wing.

Whip finish.



13th Annual Beans 'n' Jeans

Join us **online** to help build the Hansen family home in Uniontown!

When
Saturday April 10 through
Saturday April 17, 2021

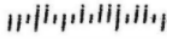
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What
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Clearwater Fly Casters
PO Box 394
Pullman, WA 99163

The Tippet

Clearwater Fly Casters

March 2021

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Vice President	Open	
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Now on Facebook! Locate us by searching Clearwater Fly Casters

Membership and Monthly Meeting:

CFC membership dues are \$25/yr. for individuals, \$35/yr. for families, \$10/yr. for students, \$50/yr. sustaining, \$300/lifetime. When the Pandemic is behind us, meetings will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through May. Meetings are 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.