

# The Central Oregon Flyfisher

Vol. 31, Number 8, August 2008



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## RANDOM CAST

One of the first things I did after moving to Bend was join Central Oregon Flyfishers. I had been fly fishing for over two decades, but not frequently enough to have anything close to real competence, much less mastery. I wanted to improve my skills overall, learn about local waters, and just fish more.

About four years later, I can say that the club has come through for me on many levels. I've taken casting classes from Fred Foisset of the Hook Fly Shop, Peter Bowers from The Patient Angler, and Jeff Perin of the Fly Fishers Place. I've taken on-the-water classes from Damien Nurre of Fly & Field and well-known local guide John Judy. I've learned more about bugs from COF's John Anderson than I thought I'd ever know and had Scott Robertson, COF member and captain of the USA Fly Fishing Team, show me some tricks that dramatically improved my nymphing success.

This last month was another great example of what the club can offer. The outing to the Williamson and Wood Rivers was attended by ten members, most of who had never fished



Lunch break on the Wood River

this area. It can't be said that we all had great success, but we certainly had a good scout of a river that holds real promise. I'll certainly be back on the Williamson, hopefully soon. First, though, I'll have to get a bigger net. The stories about monster trout are true; the question is how to hook and then land them.

July's presentation by John Smeraglio of Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop was another winner. I spend

more time on the Deschutes than any other body of water, have a decent success rate on it, and did not think I would get much out of another presentation on fishing the Deschutes. Wrong again.

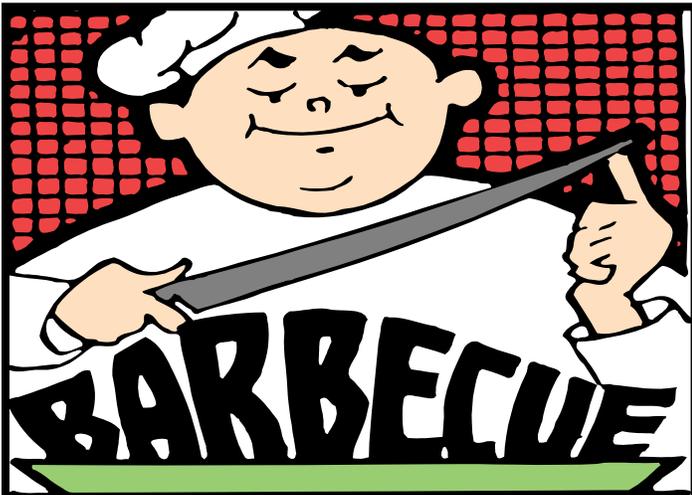
John diagramed some nymphing techniques I had not seen before that looked promising. The Saturday following the meeting I loaded my pontoon boat back onto my truck for yet another long day's float down the lower Deschutes. I combined John's straight line nymphing idea and his placement of weight with Bill Seitz's technique for rigging nymphs and had a great day catching redbands. Maybe no more fish than normal, but I got them in different places and had fun trying something new.

That's just a short list of the many excellent classes and presentations that have helped me become a better fly fisherman. If it can help me, it can help you too. Take a class from the club, go on a club outing, and take advantage of what the club has to offer.

The club will hold a special meeting on August 20 at the Senior Center to discuss what to do with our excess funds and the potential for launching a significant new volunteer project. See you there.

— Yancy Lind





**Annual COF BBQ • Aspen Hall in Shevlin Park  
August 21 • 6:30 pm**

The **THURSDAY** barbeque will replace the usual Wednesday monthly meeting. Bring the family and enjoy the evening. Let the kids fish in the pond. There will be no program, just a warm summer evening to enjoy.

To reach Aspen Hall, drive west on Newport and go through all the traffic circles. Newport becomes Shevlin at Mt. Washington. Keep going at least another mile until you get to Shevlin Park. Aspen Hall is on the right; look for parking on the Aspen Hall side or opposite.

**What to Bring:** Show off your cooking skills! Bring a dish to share (side dish, desert, salad or appetizer.) Also bring adult beverages, in moderation. The club will supply eating utensils, soft drinks, burgers, hot dogs, chips and condiments.

**We need volunteers to help set up, serve, cook and clean up.** If you can help, call Herb Blank at 312-2568.

## GENERAL MEETING

### Special August meeting

August 20 | 6:30 p.m. | Bend Senior Center, 1600 S.E. Reed Market Road, Bend

The Central Oregon Flyfishers is organized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit. This charitable designation was obtained as part of the club's early efforts to organize and launch Kokanee Karnival, the youth education project we run in partnership with Sunriver Anglers and other organizations.

COF's financial status has varied, and it is now robust. Even with reserves held for club and Kokanee Karnival activities, we are over capitalized by anywhere from \$10,000 to \$15,000 dollars.

As a non-profit, and as an organization whose mission is to encourage and promote fly fishing for the benefit of all, the club's board feels that we should no longer keep The Central Oregon Flyfisher

these excess funds. The question is how to best utilize them. Many ideas have been offered by club members. In general, these ideas fall into two categories: donating funds and undertaking service projects.

One suggestion is to donate the funds to another organization that shares a mission similar to our own. Examples include private organizations, such as the Deschutes River Conservancy and Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, as well as governmental organizations like Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife or the U.S. Forest Service, with the funds targeted specifically for a local fisheries-oriented project.

Other suggestions can be grouped as service projects. In the spirit that launched Kokanee Karnival, some members feel we should take on a conservation-oriented service project. Ideas include tui chub control on East Lake, helping Sunriver Anglers with their tui chub project on Little Lava Lake, and invasive species education and control.

We will have a special meeting on August 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Senior Center to discuss this issue and hopefully come to a decision. Please plan on attending.

– Yancy Lind

## EDUCATION

### Upcoming classes

#### Shallow-water nymfing

August 17 | 9:00 to 3:00 | \$20 | Bill Myers | Big Bend Campground on the Crooked River

Bill Myers of Prineville will teach this class. Meet at Big Bend Campground on the Crooked River at 9 a.m. Class ends at 3 p.m., so bring your lunch.

#### Two-handed spey casting

August 27 | 9:00 to 3:00 | \$25 | John Judy | Location to be announced.

Remember to sign up in advance for classes. For more information or to sign up for a class, send email to Lee Ann Ross ([rossleeann@yahoo.com](mailto:rossleeann@yahoo.com)).

Many thanks to Scott Cook from Fly and Field for an excellent lake-fishing class in July.



Ron Anderson in British Columbia. Photo: Max Johnson

## OUTINGS

After an outing, please contact Bob Evermore about fish caught, wild fish stories, hilarious incidents, or other outing-related information.

– Bob Evermore

[bob@poesociety.com](mailto:bob@poesociety.com)

541-728-0077 or 619-606-7400

### 2008 Outings

August 6	Three Creeks Lake
August 23	East Lake
September 10	Diamond Lake
<b>September 15 to 17</b>	<b>Middle Fork of the Willamette (Don Schnack) ** See note.</b>
October 9 to 12	Deschutes Steelhead Trip (Larry Godfrey)
October 25	Grande Ronde River
November 15	Crooked River

\*\* **THE DATE FOR THIS OUTING HAS CHANGED**

### Three Creeks Lake

August 6 | Meet at the boat ramp at the lake at 8:00 a.m.

Three Creeks Lake presents some good opportunities to land stocked rainbows and wild brook trout in the 6 to 16 inch range. ODFW stocked the lake with 1500 red-bands on June 29 and are scheduled to release 1500 more on July 26. These stocked trout are in the 5 to 8 ounce weight range. Fishing action tends to be good near the dam at the northeast end of the lake and at the drop-off located midway between the two creek inlets on the west side of the lake. The lake is characterized by lots of shallow shoals, permitting ample opportunities to catch some fish. To get access to the best fishing, you'll want to take your pontoon boat or float — motorized boats are not allowed. There should be little competition on the lake during this mid-week outing, so we're looking forward to a great day of fishing.

**Directions:** From Sisters, go southeast on Elm Street, which climbs into the mountains and becomes FR16 when it enters the Deschutes National Forest. The trip is about 16.5 miles and takes about 30 minutes from Sisters.

### East Lake

Aug 23 | Meet at the parking lot and boat ramp on the south-east shoreline of the lake at 8:00 a.m.

Late August is a good time of year for rainbows, Atlantic salmon, and brown trout at East Lake. Kokanee can be caught, but they'll be hanging out deep in the north central portion of the lake, as will the largest brown trout. You'll want to take your boat or float to enable you to access more of the fish, because the shore fishing isn't prime here. Patterns that produce results include callibaetis, mosquito, midges, and Adams for dry-fly fishing. Successful nymph

The Central Oregon Flyfisher

patterns include leeches, hair's ear and woolly buggers. Trolling deep for kokanee can produce good results.

**Directions:** Take Highway 97 south from Bend for 22 miles to County Road 21 (East Lake – Paulina Lake Road), then go east about 18 miles to the boat ramp/parking lot.

### COF invited to join Rogue Fly Fishers for a Central Oregon waters outing

September 5 to 7 | campground across from Twin Lakes Resort

Phil Hager, COF past president, invites members of COF to join the Rogue Fly Fishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers on their Central Oregon waters outing. Anglers will fish different waters each day. Some anglers will arrive before September 5 and stay after September 7. For more information, contact Phil Hager ([flyfishingphil@ffpc-rods.com](mailto:flyfishingphil@ffpc-rods.com) or 541-778-0963).

### Wild Women of the Water

Wild Women were up to their antics again during the outing to Hosmer Lake. Fresh BLT sandwiches for lunch, spaghetti and grilled chicken dinners, 35-degree morning temperatures, and water pistol shootouts were all part of the fun. We caught a few fish too!

Volunteers are needed to help water plants along Whychus Creek, tag fish for the Crooked River study, and teach stations at Kokanee Karnival and Salmon Watch. (See *Volunteer Opportunities* on page 5.) See the Upstream Events calendar for COF outings in the coming months. Leave room in your schedule for some of these activities. Hope to see you at the COF BBQ and our next outing.

– Terri Grimm



## OTHER NEWS

### Crooked River study continues

OSU graduate student Shivonne Nesbit is about to complete year one of her fish population study on the Crooked River. According to Nesbit, the study is progressing well. Volunteers have successfully tracked most of the fish weekly. (Through their many volunteer hours, Steve Williams and Frank McKim have become expert “fish-trackers.”) In mid-January, contact was lost with about seven fish of both species (whitefish and redband trout). Nesbit doesn’t know if the fish moved into deep water, moved into Lake Billy Chinook, suffered mortality, or have transmitters that malfunctioned.

Preliminary data suggest that redband trout are territorial and do not move great distances. Nesbit is entering the data into a geographical information system database, which will allow her to map the movement of individual fish.

The study has raised several questions regarding whitefish, such as “Where do whitefish rear?” Nesbit plans to collect data to learn more about whitefish habits. Electroshocking efforts in the Crooked River have targeted larger fish. With the help of a high-school summer intern, Nesbit will electroshock along the banks to collect data for smaller-size fish.

Nesbit needs more volunteer help with telemetry tracking. She invites all members of COF to join the fish-tagging events coming in September. See *Volunteer Opportunities* for more information.

– Terri Grimm

### Steelhead rendezvous

August 8 to 10 | Deschutes River | Beavertail Campground

Peter Bowers, owner of The Patient Angler, invites all COF members to the first Steelhead Rendezvous. Each day, there will be FREE, in-camp educational clinics, seminars,



presentations, and demonstrations that cover using fly-fishing equipment and technical gear, tying steelhead flies, and more (30 classes total). Peter

will have a steelhead slide show on Saturday night. There will be a nominal fee for the two-hour, on-the-water casting classes (six classes total, six students/class). There will be six, guided, four-hour steelhead float trips (\$75.00/angler, equipment provided, as needed). Class sizes are limited, so sign up in advance.

For more information, contact Peter ([info@patientangler.com](mailto:info@patientangler.com) or 541-389-6208), or visit <http://www.patientangler.com/>.

– Sherry Steele

### Oregon State fly-tying competition and demonstration

There will be an Oregon State fly-tying competition during the 2008 state fair in Salem. Non-competitors may demonstrate their fly-tying skills on Sunday, August 24.

For more information, contact Keith Burkhart ([blueback4me@comcast.net](mailto:blueback4me@comcast.net) or 503-363-8324).

### Metolius fly fishing & bamboo rod fair

The weather was hot and so was the show! The seventh annual Metolius Fly Fishing & Bamboo Rod Fair was very successful. Here are some of the highlights:

- casting demonstrations and presentations by Jason Borger (shadow caster for *A River Runs Through It*), Metolius River guru and COF member John Judy, and past COF president Phil Hagar
- informative information from Don Ratliff about the construction of the Round Butte facility, which will enable passage of salmon and steelhead
- fly-tying demonstrations
- fish, river, and wildlife art exhibits; displays of antique tackle
- free casting lessons and knot-tying sessions
- displays by some of the West Coast’s finest contemporary bamboo rod makers

And so much more that it makes me dizzy to think of it. There was a raffle for a fine bamboo rod. Alas, I didn’t win.

This year, thanks to Bob Griffin, the COF booth was very attractive. Way to go Bob! Many people visited the booth, and a new member joined. The following volunteers drove a total of 841 miles and volunteered a total of 80 hours: Bob Griffin, Andy Smith, Gene McMullen, Don Schnack, Terri Grimm, Jeff Rola, Betsy Brauer, and Bob Mullong. Thank you! Keep your FINS UP!

– Capt Caddis

### Baitfish found in Diamond Lake

ROSEBURG, Ore. – State fish biologists found 11 golden shiners and one unknown fish in a routine trap net at the summer home area of Diamond Lake.

Anyone witnessing an angler using live fish bait should call Oregon State Police at 541-440-3334 to report it. Witnesses should get as much information as possible, including a description of the person, vehicle, or boat along with a boat number and license plate number.

All Diamond Lake users are reminded to launch a clean, dry boat and never use live fish for bait.

– ODFW News, July 21, 2008 (edited)

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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### Crooked River fish tracking and tagging

Sep 12 to 14 and Sep 19 to 21 | Crooked River

Shivonne Nesbit needs your help with tracking and tagging fish in the Crooked River. Volunteers are invited to camp for the weekend or come out for just the day. Nesbit plans to capture and tag 30 to 40 fish. Some smaller-size tags will be used this year to target smaller fish. For more information, contact Shivonne Nesbit (541-805-5320 or [shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu](mailto:shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu)).

### Water plants and help with Salmon Watch

Oregon Trout Unlimited and the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council need volunteers to help water riparian plants along Whychus Creek, which runs through Sisters. The schedule is flexible. Buckets are available onsite.

Volunteers are also needed for the Salmon Watch educational program (October 6 to 17). Volunteers will teach at stations that focus on Water Quality, Macroinvertebrates, Riparian Ecology, and Fish Biology. The program will be held at Riverside Campground on the Metolius River. Training is available. More information available from: [www.healthywatersinstitute.org](http://www.healthywatersinstitute.org)

For more information about these opportunities, contact Kolleen Yake, Education Coordinator, Healthy Waters Institute, Oregon Trout/Upper Deschutes Watershed Council (541-382-6103 ext. 33).

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## CONSERVATION

### Whychus Creek wild and scenic river management plan

Whychus Creek has been in the news as one of the sites for reintroduction of steelhead in the upper Deschutes River basin. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) wants to involve the public in its planning process to develop a Whychus Creek Wild and Scenic River Management Plan. In general, the Management Plan will:

- describe the desired condition(s) for the river
- describe the standards and guidelines necessary to guide management actions in the future
- develop a monitoring plan
- provide a framework to add potential new management direction
- identify the final boundary

Whychus Creek (formerly Squaw Creek) is a perennial stream that is a tributary of the Deschutes River. It is approximately 41 miles long from its headwaters to its mouth. Whychus Creek was designated by Congress as a

Wild and Scenic River in 1988. The designated area includes 15.4 miles, beginning at the source and ending at the USGS hydrological gauging station that is approximately 4 miles southwest of the City of Sisters. The USFS manages the entire Whychus Creek Wild and Scenic River corridor. There is no private land within the Wild and Scenic River boundary.

The source of Whychus Creek begins on the glaciers of the Three Sisters mountains and includes Soap Creek, the South and North Forks of Whychus Creek, and Park Creek. The 6.6 mile segment from the source to the Three Sisters Wilderness boundary is classified as "wild". Wild rivers are defined as those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. They represent vestiges of primitive America. The 8.8 mile segment from the wilderness boundary to the USGS hydrological gauging station is classified as "scenic". A scenic river is one that is free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.

The USFS has invited the public to provide their thoughts on the following topics:

- What about Whychus Creek is special or important to you?
- What do you like or dislike about the river's current management?
- How should we change the management of Whychus Creek to protect its outstandingly remarkable values?

Send your comments to Whychus Wild and Scenic River Plan, Project Leader, Maret Pajutee, P.O. Box 249, Sisters, OR 97759. You can email comments to [comments-pacificnorthwest-deschutes-sisters@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-pacificnorthwest-deschutes-sisters@fs.fed.us).

If you submit electronic comments, you must:

- Submit comments only to the email address listed above.
- Put the project name in the subject line.
- Submit comments as part of the email message or as an attachment in one of the following three formats only: Microsoft Word, rich text format (rtf), or Adobe Portable Document Format (pdf).

### Proposed changes in the harvest of wild steelhead on the North Umpqua

Proposed Oregon fishing regulations for 2009 call for the harvest of wild winter steelhead in the Umpqua River and the North and South Forks. These proposed changes are supported by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Their biologists believe the steelhead run is healthy and should be harvested. These proposed changes

*continued on page 6*

## TYERS CORNER

Wow! Summer's heat has arrived. For some, the fishing reports have been great. Keep in touch with club members, and they will get you into some great fishing. I have been out a few times. The political fights, which seem to be never ending, are finally scaling back. Fishing is going to be my main focus again. East Lake has been the most productive for me, with a good 20-fish day. (The largest at about 2 ½ pounds.) I caught them all on the same fly, and I mean one fly. This month features this fly; it may be one of the first flies I included in this column, with some refinements.

The fly is a cripple or emerger pattern. Fish it on top, with only the hackle area dabbed with floatant; this allows the shuck and body to hang down below the surface film. The Antron yarn has an attractor quality that helps bring fish to a fly.

**Fishing Tip:** Most of the time I hunt for fish and fish dry flies. I cruise the shoreline or weed line of a lake, and I watch for rising fish. The largest rises are usually the smaller fish. So where are the larger fish? They are between the shoreline and the larger rises. Look for subtle rises or just bulges in the water. Wait and see if there is a route to the rises, then cast accordingly. You will be amazed at what you can bring out of that edge water.

GOOD LUCK and happy hunting.

*Jerry Criss*

*(541-536-3581 or tlfly44@msn.com)*

### TLF Deer Hair Emerger

**Hook:** light weight curved scud hook #12 to #18

**Thread:** 8/0 light dun or gray

**Shuck:** gold or light yellow Antron yarn, 8 to 10 fibers

**Body:** brown, flat, waxed nylon or stretchy nylon

**Rib:** tag end of the tying thread

**Wing:** fine, natural deer hair, tied upright and flared

**Hackle:** fiery brown furnace

**Head:** the tying thread

Start this fly like any other, but leave the tag end of the tying thread long; it will be the ribbing material. Tie in the deer hair with the tips forward over the eye, and then stand them up. Flair the wing by pushing your fingernail on top of the thread wraps. (The wing should be about the hook gap in length.) Now take the tying thread back, wrapping over the tag as you wind toward the hook bend. Tie in the shuck before going down the bend; it should be about ¼ to ⅜ inch in length when tied in completely. Tie in the body material before reaching the extreme bend of the hook, and then continue at least half



way down the bend. Take the tying thread forward, and stop at the back of the wing. Bring the body material forward, making a nice tight body, and stop behind the wing. Tie it off with the tying thread. Wind the rib forward with even wraps and tie it off behind the wing. Tie in the hackle at the back

of the wing and, with two wraps in back and three wraps in front of the wing, tie off the hackle. Finish with a neat head, and you will have very light weight fly that will last awhile.

**Tying tip:** Try using a thread rib for your dry flies; it saves weight, and it stills gives a good impression of a segmented body. Also vary the colors on this fly to match what you see on the water. This fly is one of those that has the shape and proportion that can represent a lot of different bugs.

### Proposed changes in the harvest of wild steelhead on the North Umpqua *(continued from page 5)*

are a reaction to regulations adopted last year by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission in 2007 banning the killing of wild winter steelhead on these rivers. The Steamboaters ([www.steamboaters.org](http://www.steamboaters.org)), a fishing club that has worked for more than 30 years to protect the Umpqua, has asked for our help. They would like concerned COF members to send letters or emails to the Commission asking them to keep the current ban in place. Mail comments to ODFW Angling Regulations, 3406 Cherry Ave. NE, Salem, OR 97303 or [rhine.t.messmer@state.or.us](mailto:rhine.t.messmer@state.or.us). Commission meetings will be held on August 8 and September 12. They have provided some arguments against killing wild Umpqua Winter Steelhead:

- Umpqua winter steelhead are one of the few healthy runs on the West Coast.

- 83% of Oregon's native fish stocks are extinct, at risk or potentially at risk. (We should be biased toward protecting our remaining healthy wild runs rather than biased toward harvesting them.)
- Steelhead are facing huge problems: Changing ocean conditions, warmer and lower summer flows, and greater forest fire risk.
- Poor steelhead fishing elsewhere on the West Coast has led to huge crowds on the Umpqua system.
- When fish are kegged up during low flows, people use motors to fish the same water over and over; the fish are hammered.

# Central Oregon Flyfishers Up-Stream Events 2008

Date	Time	Activity	Location	Contact
<b>AUGUST</b>				
Aug 7	6:30 pm	<b>monthly Board meeting</b>	Environmental Center, Bend	Yancy Lind ( <a href="mailto:yancy_lind@ml.com">yancy_lind@ml.com</a> )
Aug 6		<b>OUTING</b>	Three Creeks Lake	Bob Evermore ( <a href="mailto:bob@poesociety.com">bob@poesociety.com</a> )
Aug 17	9:00 am	<b>CLASS - Shallow-water nymphing</b>	Big Bend Campground	Lee Ann Ross ( <a href="mailto:rossleeann@yahoo.com">rossleeann@yahoo.com</a> )
Aug 20	6:30 pm	<b>special meeting</b>	Bend Senior Center	
Aug 21	6:30 pm	<b>annual picnic</b>	Shevlin Park, Aspen Hall	Herb Blank (312-2568)
Aug 23		<b>OUTING</b>	East Lake	Bob Evermore ( <a href="mailto:bob@poesociety.com">bob@poesociety.com</a> )
Aug 27	9:00 am	<b>CLASS - Two-handed spey</b>	To be announced	Lee Ann Ross ( <a href="mailto:rossleeann@yahoo.com">rossleeann@yahoo.com</a> )
TBA		<b>Wild Women of the Water outing</b>	TBA	Delores Marsh ( <a href="mailto:ladyd@bendcable.com">ladyd@bendcable.com</a> )

## IN THE FUTURE

Sep 22-26		<b>Kokanee Karnival Streamside</b>	Brown's Creek	Dave Dunahay
Sep 10		<b>OUTING</b>	Diamond Lake	
Sep 12-14		<b>Fish tagging</b>	Crooked River	

## Non-Club Activities & FYI

Aug 8-10	Steelhead Rendezvous at Beavertail Campground			Peter Bowers ( <a href="mailto:info@patientangler.com">info@patientangler.com</a> or 541-389-6208)
Aug 24	OR State Fair fly-tying competition			Keith Burkhart (503-363-8324)
Sep 5-7	Rogue Fly Fishers CO outing			Phil Hager ( <a href="mailto:flyfishingphil@ffpc-rods.com">flyfishingphil@ffpc-rods.com</a> )
Sep 12-14 & 19-21	Fish tagging on Crooked River			Shivonne Nesbit ( <a href="mailto:shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu">shivonne.nesbit@oregonstate.edu</a> )
Sep 20-21	Fly fishing Western lakes, John Smeraglio & Rick Hafele			Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop (1-866-647-4721 or at <a href="mailto:john@flyfishingdeschutes.com">john@flyfishingdeschutes.com</a> )

### Proposed changes in the harvest of wild steelhead on the North Umpqua (continued from page 6)

- There are no data about run timing versus dispersal into different watersheds; heavy short-term harvest could do great damage to individual "micro-populations".
- There are no data on fishing pressure or success rates on the North Umpqua River, or extrapolation into anticipated harvest if the regulation changes are implemented.

– Bill Seitz



Scenes from the 2008 trip to British Columbia. Photos: Max Johnson

2008 COF Board Members: Yancy Lind PRESIDENT Dennis Rockwell VICE PRESIDENT, Raffle Susan Telford TREASURER Earl Rettig SECRETARY Dave Magaret Programs  
 Bob Griffin Historian Emil Seidel Larry Godfrey Banquet Dave Semich Past President Dick Olson Membership Bill Seitz Conservation Lee Ann Ross Education  
 Bob Evermore Outings Dave Dunahay Kokanee Karnival Delores Marsh Wild Women of the Water

## John Day rafting and smallmouth bass trip

On July 14 to 16, Bill Seitz, Dave Semich, Larry Godfrey and John Anderson floated and fished the river from Service Creek to near Clarno, at flows declining from 600 cfs to 500 cfs. During about 10-hour fishing days, everyone caught at least 50 bass (raft average of 100+/day), with the individual top catch about 80/day. Most fish caught were between 6 and 11 inches, but we also caught a fair number between 11 and 13 inches, and two (measured) at 19 ½ inches. We also caught some from 3 to 6 inches. Flies that caught most fish were Bill's foamgirl and brown/orange Clouser minnow, Dave's yellow spider and chartreuse/white Clouser, and a green woolly bugger used by Dave and Larry.

We also had rafting "adventures" as the novice rapids runners (Larry and myself) occasionally hung up on rocks — much to the chagrin of instructor Bill who had to enter the river (depths of 1 to 2 feet) to pull the raft free. Unfortunately, on the final hang up, Bill stepped out of the raft and promptly disappeared into a deep hole before popping up on the other side of the raft (bow line in hand, hatless and sputtering loudly!). As the blue smoke cleared, we realized that Bill's hat was slowly sinking as it floated down the river. As I deftly maneuvered the raft, Bill's skilful casting retrieved his hat and all was soon well again (soon being a relative descriptor), and Bill continued to catch many bass.

— John Anderson



Membership application available from: <http://www.coflyfishers.org>  
Mail all newsworthy items to [cof@sonatainc.com](mailto:cof@sonatainc.com) by the 22nd of the month.



Central Oregon Flyfishers

PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709



An active  
member club

[www.coflyfishers.org](http://www.coflyfishers.org)



Remember, there will be no general meeting in August.  
Attend the annual picnic on August 21 instead.