RANDOM CAST

On March 31, 125 people sat down for dinner at the Annual COF Banquet and Auction. The evening was enjoyed by all, and the net proceeds were $7,600. Thank you to all who participated. Special thanks to the banquet committee: Howard Olson, Debbie Norton, Craig Dennis and Gary Myer and volunteers Bob Griffin, Tim and Renee Schindele, Charlotte Oakes, Kathleen and Bruce Schroeder, Dan Pebbles, Karen Kreft, Todd & Corol Ann Cary and others who made things run smoothly. Two important awards were presented that evening. Dave Dunahay was awarded an Honorary Life member award for his many years of outstanding leadership and support to the COF mission. This award has been presented thirteen times in the history of COF. Yancy Lind received the 2011 Fly Fisher of the Year award in recognition of his work as leader for the outings program, a fly-fishing teacher and his extensive work in water conservation efforts for fish. Please support the businesses that support COF, especially our major sponsors — the fly shops and guide services. In addition to donating the items listed below, these businesses support COF through fly-fishing education, outings, fly-tying classes, casting classes and fishing gear for monthly raffles:

| Deep Canyon Outfitters – Bend – Guided trip | The Hook Fly Shop – Sun River – Trip |
| Fin & Fire – Redmond – Guided trip | Orvis of Bend – Orvis Helios rod for square raffle |
| Fly & Field – Bend – Fishing-related raffle items | The Patient Angler – Bend - Sage Flight rod and case for name tag drawing |
| The Fly Fishers Place – Sisters – Trip |

See page 6 for important information about two upcoming educational fishing events. This year COF will partner with ODFW on May 19 for Youth Angling Day at Bend Pine Nursery. Volunteers should contact Karen Kreft (youth@coflyfishers.org). Gordon Chandler will teach a fly-fishing class for beginners through Bend Parks and Recreation. If you would like to help Gordon Chandler with the class, contact him at gordon.chandler@gmail.com.

This past week I had the privilege to volunteer for the Kokanee Karnival for the first time. In my first three days, over 150 kids were educated about fishing, and they had fun! It was a wonderful reminder of how well received this program is by the community. This ongoing successful program is a reflection of the vision and years of hard work of Bob Mullong, a.k.a. Captain Caddis. Gordon Chandler, Bob’s good friend, reflects on Bob’s passing on page 12 — remembering The Captain. The Kokanee Karnival will be an ongoing legacy of the big heart of Captain Caddis.

– Eric Steele, President
**Tenkara: the tradition, art and techniques**

Daniel Galhardo, founder of Tenkara USA (tenkarausa.com), will speak about the tradition, art and techniques of tenkara, the Japanese method of fly fishing that uses no reel, only rod, line and fly. Daniel has single-handedly introduced this centuries-old fly-fishing tradition to the western world! An accomplished practitioner and passionate advocate for this simplified approach to fly fishing, Daniel has spent considerable time in Japan learning from renowned tenkara masters. He will share the story behind tenkara with an engaging multi-media presentation.

Want to learn more about Tenkara? See Tenkara Clinic under Education later in the newsletter.

**OUTINGS**

**2012 outings**

The 2012 outings schedule is constantly being expanded and updated, so keep your eyes open for offerings that might be of interest. If you have never organized or led an outing, educational trip or service activity, please consider offering your knowledge and skills to your fellow COF members.

Wild Women of the Water (WWW) is still in need of a leader/organizer. For information concerning this important position, contact Eric Steele (president@coflyfishers.org).

The COF Google Calendar is up and running. Go online and get the latest outings information for all of the trips that are currently on the schedule.

May offers five great opportunities to get out on the water: Lee Ann Ross will co-lead a multiday trip to lakes in Central Washington, Dave Semich will lead the annual bass fishing venture to Davis Lake, John Anderson will lead an overnight adventure to Antelope Flat Reservoir, Yancy Lind will lead a float trip down the Deschutes River from Warm Springs to Trout Creek and Yancy Lind will offer a second trip for fly-fishing beginners who are unfamiliar with the techniques needed to be successful on the Crooked River.

It will be quite a month of fly fishing opportunities. Make your choice(s), get out in the improving weather and have a good time with your fellow COF members.

Be sure to contact the outings leaders regarding the details for each activity (specifics and contact information available on the COF Google Calendar).

– John Tackmier, Outings Coordinator
outings@coflyfishers.org or 541-549-6252

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**OUTINGS 2012**

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Davis Lake (bass)

Saturday | May 5

Davis Lake is located on the west side of the Cascade Lakes Hwy about three miles south of Wickiup Reservoir and just south of where the lava flow comes next to the road. Meet at the Lava Flow Campground at the northeast corner of the lake at 8:00 A.M. We’ll discuss where to fish, what flies to use and how to fish them. Bring your lunch and a
two-way radio. We won't come back to shore for lunch, but we will keep in touch with the radios.

What to bring

**Floating device:** boat/motor, float tube, pontoon boat, kayak, or pram – Davis Lake is pretty tough to fish from the shore.

**Rod – STOUT!:** Some of the bass are over six pounds. I use my 9 ½ foot, 8-weight steelhead rod.

**Lines:** Floating for the shallow weedy areas and fast sink for around the dam.

**Leader – NO NONSENSE!:** I use three feet of 40-pound and three feet of 20-pound mono. Bass are not leader shy, and I can rip my flies out of the reeds. A 7-foot tapered leader to 15 pound would be fine.

**Flies:** Weedless flies are extremely helpful. I use the following, in order of preference: poppers (black, yellow, Frog); rabbit strips (black, purple, olive green) four to five inches long w/ barbell eyes; dragonfly nymphs; Dahlburg Divers

**Net:** You don't need one. You just get 'em by sticking your thumb in their mouth and grabbing their lower jaw.

**Stringer:** Bass are good to eat and they are an illegally introduced species in Davis, so keep as many as possible.

**Additional Info:** Here is a short video that you may want to watch: http://outdoorchannel.com/Shows/HookNLook.aspx?refID=Newsletter&pid=wbOeUns30Br8V2qLpOOnsoq

**RSVP:** Please send me an email (flyfshndave@gmail.com) if you plan to go.

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**Lakes of Central Washington**

May 2-7 | Leader: Matt Paluch

Join us on a trip to fish the lakes and streams of Central Washington, hosted by Matt Paluch, former Moses Lake resident and guide. Outstanding lake fishing on both public and private waters is available in early May, and Matt will show you where the good spots are. There are more than 20 "quality" lakes within a day trip of Soap Lake. These lakes are best fished by float tube or pontoon boat. We will camp at Sun Lakes State Park (Dry Falls), with four quality lakes within 10 minutes of the camp. We will fish different lakes each day, depending on conditions. Plan on fishing a few nights. (Night fishing is legal; Matt would be happy to take you to his favorite spots.) There are a variety of available species of trout to catch: rainbow, tiger, brown, brook and Lahontan cutthroat. Bass fishing is typically really good in many of the nearby lakes, and there are a few locations to fish carp. An optional addition to this trip is to fish Isaak’s Ranch on May 3, semiguided with Matt. This private ranch has arguably the best stillwater trout fishing in North America. Cost for fishing at Isaak’s is $225 per person. Please contact Matt (541-639-2539 or mattpaluch@gmail.com) if you want to join this trip so he has an idea of how many people to expect.

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**Antelope Flat Reservoir**

May 11 & 12

John Anderson will lead an outing to Antelope Flat (A.F.) Reservoir in the Maury Mountains on May 11 and 12. Meet at the boat launch area at 10:00 A.M. on May 11. If you plan to camp overnight on May 11, arrive at the campground early enough to get a campsite before meeting at the boat launch.

**Campers:** Register at a campground site before arriving at the boat launch. There are 25 sites ($8.00/night or $4.00/night for Golden Age card holders). There is a source of water at the campground, but I have been advised that some campers have brought water with them. There are NO HOOK-UPS, but there are pit toilets. As you approach the reservoir, turn right to enter the campsite area.

**Directions:** From Prineville, drive 32 miles east on Hwy 380; turn right onto Forest Road 17. There is a small sign on the road.

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The Central Oregon Flyfisher

May 2012
the left that identifies this turnoff. Stay on this road until it
junctions with Road 1760, then turn left toward the reservoir.
There is a sign at this junction. (Anyone who is pulling boats/
campers may prefer this route because the Southern access
from Brothers is over rougher roads.)

From Bend, drive Hwy 20 east to Brothers. At Brothers,
turn left (north) on Camp Creek Road. (Camp Creek Road is
between the Brothers Stage Stop and the ODOT rest area.)
Stay on Camp Creek Road until it crosses Merrill Flat Road;
it then becomes Pringle Flat Road.

Follow Pringle Flat Road to a “T” intersection with Bear
Creek Road and turn right (East) onto Bear Creek Road.
Drive about six miles on Bear Creek Road and turn left
(north) onto Tackman Road. The road splits onto a sort of
“Y” intersection here and the turn slopes down toward the
left — it can be easily missed. Stay on this road until you pass
through a ranch complex where you will continue north as
the road becomes Drake Creek Road. Continue onward to
Forest Service land. Drive a winding and somewhat rough
road up the mountain and watch for signs to the reservoir.
You will take two signed left turns to get to the reservoir. If
you plan to drive via Brothers, a group will meet at the Pilot
Butte Cinemas parking lot (27th street and Hwy 20) at 7:00
A.M.

Fishing Information: Fish from a boat, pontoon boat,
float tube or from shore, and plan to use either/both floating
and intermediate or type 3 full-sink lines. Depending on how
you fish, plan to use fly patterns such as: chironomid midges;
Callibaetis nymphs; the Bird’s Nest; damselfly and dragonfly
mimics; waterboatmen; black, brown, or red leeches; brown
wooly buggers; pumpkin head – and other stillwater patterns
illustrated on the COF website. Chironomids in sizes 16 and
14 and other flies mostly in sizes 16 to 12. Antelope Flat
Reservoir is long and wide, and many flyfishers seem to prefer
fishing the North shore (a long way to kick a float tube).

However, one can walk East along the South shore and fish
from the shore (not an uncommon tactic) or launch a float
tube at different places. Bring a two-way radio set to 5.5 to
communicate with others while on the water. Sunblock and
mosquito repellent also might be needed.

Float the lower Deschutes
Saturday | May 12 | Contact Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com) to
sign up and get more information.

What passes for spring is upon us, and the lower Des-
chutes river is open for fishing. Join me for the local favorite
float from the Warm Springs boat ramp to Trout Creek. This
trip is for anglers who have a drift or pontoon boat and want
to get familiar with this easy to float section of the lower D.
Salmonfly season is just around the corner, and we will float
prime water for this world-famous hatch. Strong wading
skills are required.

Crooked River for beginners
Tuesday | May 22 | Contact Yancy Lind (yancy_lind@ml.com) to
sign up and get more information.

This outing is for beginning fly anglers and those who
want an introduction to the Crooked River. You will learn
from real Crooked River experts like Bill Seitz, Frank Turek,
Dave Semich and others. We will begin the day with group
discussion on various techniques for fishing the Crooked and
then split up into small groups to fish.

The Crooked River is an excellent place for beginners
and experts alike. It is a relatively easy river to wade, there’s
plenty of open space for casting, there are lots of fish to be
captured (yes, the stories of 20+ fish an hour are true), it’s
nearby, it’s open year round and it’s beautiful. Regarding “easy
river to wade:’ the river is easy in the sense that it is fairly flat,
and the flows are usually gentle in the summer. The rocks are

continued on next page
slippery, however, so good wading boots and a wading staff are required.

Prior to the outing you may want to review the presentations on fishing the Crooked from Bill Seitz and Frank Turek, available on the COF website at http://www.coflyfishers.org/cof/cofpresentations.php.

Third annual Prineville Reservoir crappie marathon 2012
Jun 1-3 | Lizz Mullong

Come join in a weekend of fun and friendship, camping and fishing for crappie in the upper end of Prineville Reservoir.

What: A unique opportunity to seek the notorious and sometimes elusive crappie, using fly rod techniques.

When: Friday, June 1 to Sunday, June 3. If you can’t camp, then just attend the main event on Saturday.

Who: Anyone interested in learning new tricks as well as honing old skills.

Where: We will be camping at Prineville Reservoir Resort, space #19. Each campsite has water and electricity. There are nice rest rooms and showers. There is a café serving breakfast and lunch. For reservations call 541-447-7468. Check out www.prinevillereservoirresort.com for rates and directions.

The Main Event: Meet at the marina at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday. This fishery is best approached with powered craft, as we have to boat several miles up the reservoir. There is a dirt road that can be driven to a few spots that would accommodate float-tubes and pontoon boats. The marina rents boats and has launch facilities. Bring your hand-held radio.

As for the fishing: Crappie are heavy insect feeders and are not fussy when it comes to fly patterns (sizes 10-12), Black Ant, Black Gnat, Light Cahill, Zug bugs, poppers, Hare’s Ear, Mickey Finn, Wooly Worm, Wooly Bugger, anything bead head, anything with rubber legs. If it looks like a bug and moves like a bug, a crappie will grab it.

Plus, we might try for some BASS.....Interested?

RSVP: Lizz Mullong (503-953-0368 or mullonglizz@yahoo.com)

Chewaucan River
Jun 19 through 24

Join us for great fishing on the Chewaucan River (only three hours from Bend) June 19 through 24. We will camp at Jones Crossing campground, right on the river. Stay for a few days or all. Besides the Chewaucan River, there’s Withers, Slide, Campbell and Deadhorse lakes to fish, and we’ll make a side trip to Deep Creek. Potluck dinner at least one night.

– Rick Sironen (Rick@nwqc.com or 503-704-9517)

EDUCATION

Fly casting basics
May 10 | $10 | 6:00 P.M. | Farewell Bend Park | Instructor: Jeff Perrin

Class will be limited to fifteen students, with a minimum of twelve students.

Jeff will teach the basics of plane, arc, timing and tempo, and he will cover the pick up and lay down, as well as false casting. Emphasis will be on loading the rod and making straight line presentations with control of the line in all directions.

To register: Mail your check for $10, payable to COF, to Kathleen Schroeder, 61283 Kristen St., Bend OR 97702. The class fee must be paid in advance. For questions, contact education chair, Kathleen Schroeder (541-480-3185 or education@coflyfishers.org).

Tenkara demonstration and clinic
FREE DEMONSTRATION | 9:00 a.m. | Thursday May 17 | location TBA

Daniel Galhardo will give a free, one-hour demonstration of the tenkara method. Open to anyone interested in attending.

PAID CLINIC | 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. | Thursday May 17 | location TBA

Daniel Galhardo will teach a clinic to those interested in delving deeper into the techniques of tenkara. Location to be announced. Limited enrollment. Demonstration equipment will be provided. Cost $40. To enroll, contact Mike Tripp (mtripp@bendcable.com).

Intermediate Fly Casting
May 24 | $10 | 6:00 P.M. | Farewell Bend Park | Instructor: Jeff Perrin

Class will be limited to fifteen students, with a minimum of twelve students.

This class will cover the Belgian loop cast, snap-T (single hand spey) and steeple cast, and presentation techniques, including a parachute cast, wiggle cast and reach mends. Students need a good grasp of the basics, especially including a tight line and well loaded rod to achieve success with these casts.

To register: Mail your check for $10, payable to COF, to Kathleen Schroeder, 61283 Kristen St., Bend OR 97702. The class fee must be paid in advance. For questions, contact education chair, Kathleen Schroeder (541-480-3185 or education@coflyfishers.org).
Aquatic macroinvertebrates for fly fishers (insects that fish eat)
May 26| 8:30 a.m. | $25 | Instructor: John Anderson

Here’s your chance to learn to identify the insects you’re trying to match. Taught by COF member and retired entomologist, John Anderson, this class will focus on the biology, life cycles and identification/recognition of the immature stages of insects, using preserved and live specimens. Microscopes, hand lenses and illustrations will assist participants in distinguishing macroinvertebrates such as scuds, aquatic sow bugs and nymphs and larvae of mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, midges and a few other insects. These will be compared to fly patterns.

Bring a sack lunch and your fishing equipment, and plan to car pool to the Crooked River in the afternoon to collect and examine aquatic macros…and time permitting, to fish.

Class will be limited to ten students, with a minimum of six students.

To register: Mail your check for $25, payable to COF, to Kathleen Schroeder, 61283 Kristen St., Bend OR 97702. The class fee must be paid in advance. For questions or directions, contact education chair, Kathleen Schroeder (541-480-3185 or education@coflyfishers.org).

Fly Fishing for Beginners

Gordon Chandler and volunteers from COF will teach basic fly fishing through Bend Parks and Recreation. The class includes knot tying, casting, rigging, entomology, reading the water and more. This is a basic class, but experienced fishers/casters are welcome and will receive help polishing their technique. The final day is a trip to the Upper Deschutes to practice what students have learned. View the details, listed on page 77 of the winter/spring catalog, on the Bend Parks and Recreation website: http://www.bendparksandrec.org/Recreation_Programs/Outdoor/.

Spey day at ORVIS (non-COF event)
May 5| 10:00 A.M. and 1:00 P.M.| Orvis Store in the Old Mill District | free

10:00 - Choosing the correct two-handed rod and line for you
1:00 – On the water fundamentals of Spey casting with single and two-handed rods

Fly Fishing the Deschutes and Other Western Rivers (non-COF event)
May 5-6 | $150 | includes dinner Saturday and breakfast & lunch
Sunday | Saturday begins at 3 P.M., dinner at 5:00 P.M.; Sunday 9 A.M. to 4 P.M. | Taught by Rick Hafele and John Smeraglio (owner of Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop)

Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop, located in Maupin, Oregon, will offer a two-day seminar on Fly Fishing the Deschutes and Other Western Rivers. This seminar is part of the shop’s Deschutes River Fly Fishing Western Streams workshops 2012.

The workshop includes dinner Saturday night, followed by a slide show and discussion on the keys to fishing western rivers. Sunday begins with a detailed presentation about western hatches and trout foods (how to recognize them and select the flies that match). After lunch, attendees will spend the afternoon on the Deschutes River learning how to select and present the right flies. Rick and John are two of the most respected and experienced fly-fishing instructors in the West, and this is a great chance to pick their brains!

To register: Contact Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop (541-395-2565 or john@flyfishingdeschutes.com). Class size limited to 12 people. Pre-registration required.

WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Fishing at Canyon Creek Ranch
Jun 1, 2, 3

For more information, see the May newsletter or contact Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com or 541-549-2072).

COF YOUTH NEWS

Next Cast Flyfishers
May 19 | Bend Pine Nursery

The COF Youth Committee recently named their program Next Cast Flyfishers. This name and program will encompass the ongoing fly-fishing activities for local youth and young adult fly fishers. Youth can become members of COF and be designated as Next Cast members. In addition to regular COF communication, they will also receive targeted information for specific activities.

The upcoming youth angling event at the Bend Pine Nursery on May 19, in conjunction with ODFW Youth An-
gling Day, is one of these targeted activities. We will contact the kids that have participated in our past activities and invite them to attend. In addition, there will be a notice in the local newspaper and other advertisements.

There will be a lead volunteer for each station; we will need additional volunteers to help at the stations. The casting, fishing and fly-tying stations will need several volunteers to assist the kids.

If you have questions or to volunteer: Contact youth@coflyfishers.org. See the online COF calendar of events for details.

MEMBERSHIP
To join, go to coflyfishers.org to print a form. Current rosters are available by request, so please contact me at the next meeting or send email to membership@coflyfishers.org with ROSTER as the subject.

– Gary Meyer, Membership Chair

Welcome new members
Gil Alonzo
Hal & Judy Brown
Robert & Suzanne Saw

Sacremento River quilt exhibit
First Friday, May 4, Quiltworks (a quilting store on 10th and Greenwood) will display A River of Quilts. This exhibit features 25 quilts, placed side by side, making up 50 feet of the Sacramento River. Marilyn Ulrich, owner, invites all members of COF to stop by and view the artwork.

Fishing midges in CO lakes available on COF website
The presentation at the April general meeting, Fishing Midges in Central Oregon Lakes by Bill Seitz is now available on the COF website. To view the presentation, go to coflyfishers.org > Presentations and click the link to the PowerPoint or PDF file.

LIBRARY NEWS
Two superb items are being added to our library this month. Reviewed below, each will be highlighted on the featured materials table in front of the library cabinet. Stop by during the May COF meeting and look the items over or check them out.

Fly-Fishing Stillwaters for Trophy Trout by Denny Rickards
This beautifully prepared book presents the breakthrough fly-fishing system that teaches you how to consistently catch tough trophy trout in western lakes. The fourteen chapters cover important topics such as: lake types and their differences, food sources for trophy trout, Rickard’s specific flies for big trout, where big fish hide, how to pick the best hour for big trout, twelve months of big-trout tactics, full moons–barometers–storm fronts and fish and a compelling section listing 100 tips for fly-fishing stillwaters—the results of 20 years and 300 lakes! What a treat to read through this wonderful book!

What the pros have to say
Gary Borger: “Fly fishers in this country have long needed a carefully compiled and detailed guide to stillwater fishing for trophy trout. And now we have one. Denny is thoroughly versed in hunting trophy trout and speaks from thousands of hours of successfully locating big fish. Not only

continued on next page
can he find them, but he can catch them; his stillwater fly designs and fishing tactics are certain to set the standards for all who follow."

Lani Waller: “This book is quite special. It comes from the heart and imagination of a poet of lakes and trout. In his words and ideas are the things that string trout fishing together like a wonderful strand of magical pearls.”

**Advanced Tactics for Emergers and Dries with Rick Hafele and John Smeraglio (DVD)**

This 2011 DVD was donated to the COF Library by member Lou Duncan. Bob Griffin reviewed the DVD and described it as “the best item I have ever seen on the subject.” The two presenters are local fly fishermen who have given COF great fly-fishing programs and demonstrations on the water. The advertisement for the program states “In this two-DVD set Rick Hafele and John Smeraglio once again combine their skill and knowledge with their own unique sense of humor to help anglers of all skill levels catch more trout when trout fishing is at its most exciting—when trout are rising and feeding at or near the surface! It’s the rare fly fisher indeed that doesn’t get excited when they see a trout’s nose break the surface. If you’ve ever felt frustrated by rising trout and weren’t sure what to do, Rick and John will give you some answers. *Advanced Tactics for Emergers and Dries* sheds light on the surface of trout fishing.”

– John Tackmier, librarian, outings@coflyfishers.org

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**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

COF members provide thousands of hours every year volunteering in our community. Running Kokanee Karnival, staffing ODFW projects and collecting trash along rivers are examples of the good work we all do. It is also important for us to be aware of what is happening in the political realm so that we continue to have access to quality fisheries. To that end, here’s a quick look at the legislative landscape.

**Gill net ban:** The Oregon legislature is out of session for the remainder of the year so no bills are being considered. We are in election season, however, and at least one ballot measure of angler interest is likely to be seen next fall. It would ban all gill nets on the Columbia and replace them with seine nets. Commercial fishermen currently using gill nets inadvertently kill many wild salmon and steelhead. These fish are supposed to be set free for sport fishermen. Seine nets are reported to be less harmful to fish. This ballot measure is being pursued by the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA).

**Crooked River regulation change:** Representing COF, Bill Seitz has submitted a regulation change to ODFW that would ban the use of bait on the Crooked River. This is not a fly fisher versus bait fisher dispute. This change attempts to increase the survival rate of salmon and steelhead that are being reintroduced into the upper Deschutes basin. Bill will ask individual members to support this change at ODFW hearings in the future.

Last year U.S. congressman Greg Walden introduced a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives that COF and numerous other fishing and conservation groups have opposed. These groups are in agreement with the outline of most of the bill, including providing additional water from Prineville Reservoir to the City of Prineville, moving the Wild and Scenic boundary to allow for potential installation of a hydro power facility, providing additional water into Mackay Creek and various changes in irrigation contract language.

We do have concerns with how these changes will be implemented. Most importantly, however, we oppose the concept of “First Fill.” First Fill would give the Ochoco Irrigation District (OID) even greater control over the water released into the Crooked River. In drought years, it would even allow OID to maintain 100% of all irrigation flows while reducing flows in the river to levels that would be lethal to fish.

Congressman Walden’s bill does not have the required support in the Senate. Negotiations on a modified version are currently occurring with staff participation from the offices of U.S. Senators Wyden and Merkley. There is a long way to go before a fish-friendly version of the bill is introduced into the Senate, but COF is involved in the process and we are hopeful that a bill acceptable to all will result.

– Yancy Lind

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**CONSERVATION**

**Support for proposal to change the Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations to remove the use of bait year round on the Crooked River**

This year the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) requested the public to submit proposed changes in the sport fishing regulations. The changes, if adopted by the Commissioners, would go into effect in 2013 and be current for four years. This year, the Central Oregon Flyfishers submitted a proposal to change the current regulations for use of bait on the Crooked River (bait currently allowed from late May to October 31) to removal of bait year round. Only flies and lures could be used to harvest redband trout and mountain whitefish. Our proposal has passed the first two hurdles (review by ODFW Regional Fisheries staff and Oregon State Police). The next hurdle is the review by the public in a series of meetings around the state. The meeting that will address our proposal is scheduled for May 8 (Tuesday) from 7 to 10

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P.M. at the new U.S. Forest Service Building (Ponderosa/Aspen Conference Room, 63095 Deschutes Market Road). After the public review, ODFW will make recommendations to the Commissioners to approve or disapprove. My sources in the ODFW say that this proposal is expected to be controversial. It is important for as many members as possible to attend the meeting and voice support for the proposal. You will not need to provide a speech; just say you fish the Crooked and support the proposal. I have attached the regulation proposal to give you background on the status of the Crooked River fisheries and the rationale for the proposal.

– Bill Seitz, conservation chair

**63P: Crooked River Flies and Lures Only – Bill Seitz - Approved**

**ODFW/OSP Public Proposal Review Form - 2012 Public Process for Development of the 2013 Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations**

**Proposed Rule:** Crooked River mainstem (Jefferson/Crook Co.) Open entire year, Use of bait prohibited all year, Closed for 150 feet downstream from Bowman Dam (two trout per day as per Zone Regulations)

**Reviewers:** Brett Hodgson and Mike Harington

**Section 1. Does the proposal adequately address the public proposal development criteria?**

A. Actions intended to change fishing opportunities

The proposal would eliminate the use of bait while angling in the mainstem Crooked River during the general season (late May – Oct. 31). This would reduce angling opportunity for a relatively small percentage of anglers.

B. Actions intended to conserve populations

The proposal would assist in the conservation of native redband trout and reintroduced summer steelhead and spring Chinook through the reduction in hooking mortality associated with the use of bait. Various literature references cite hooking mortality associated with the use of bait at 40-60% while mortality with flies and lures is typically 2-5%.

**Section 2. Did the project sponsor contact ODFW prior to submitting the proposal?**

Yes, the sponsor spoke with the District Biologist and Bob Hooton, High Desert Region Watershed Manager. The sponsor was informed that a relatively small percentage of anglers employ the use of bait on the Crooked River, thus it is difficult to determine the biological impact hooking mortality is having on salmonids populations. Thus to some degree eliminating bait is partially a social issue. However, both the resident redband and reintroduced steelhead and Chinook populations are confronted with regular environmental challenges associated with flow management in the Crooked River. Managing to maintain a high quality recreational fishery and facilitate successful anadromous reintroduction is increasingly difficult. Hooking mortality associated with bait is another additive factor limiting productivity.

**Section 3. ODFW/OSP review criteria and public proposal criteria.**

**New ODFW Review Criteria:**

A. Is the proposal consistent with ODFW fish management and conservation policies and rules?

The proposal is consistent with policies identified in the Crooked River Subbasin Plan and the Upper Deschutes River Anadromous Fish and Bull Trout Plan. The plans state redband trout and mountain whitefish shall be managed consistent with the Wild Fish Management alternative and special regulations may be necessary to protect stock fitness and life history characteristics and to maintain healthy redband trout populations with multiple age classes. The Upper Deschutes Anadromous Plan identifies implementing special regulations if necessary to meet conservation objectives. The proposal is consistent with goals and objectives outlined in the Native Fish Conservation Plan.

B. Is the proposal consistent with federal fish management plans and mandates?

The proposal is consistent with State and federal recovery goals for mid Columbia summer steelhead, a threatened species.

C. Is the proposal consistent with statutory mandates and within ODFW’s rule-making authority?

Yes, the proposal is consistent with the Commission’s rule making authority described in Oregon Revised Statues 496.162 (Establishing seasons, amounts and manner of taking wildlife; rules) and 496.146. The Commission has the authority to set angling regulations that prescribe the times, places and manner in which fish may be taken by angling and the amounts of each of those fish species that may be taken and possessed.

D. Is the proposal based on an established need?

The proposal addresses the need to manage the Crooked River fishery to maintain the quality of this popular redband trout and mountain whitefish fishery and promote the successful reintroduction of anadromous steelhead and Chinook. Environmental conditions associated with flow management limit fish production and present management challenges. Hooking mortality associated with the use of bait further impedes meeting management objectives.

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E. Is the proposal consistent with biologically sound principles and biologically feasible?
Hooking mortality associated with the use of bait is cited to be in the range of 40-60%. This can have a significant impact on the long term productivity of a population and confound meeting conservation goals while maintaining a quality fishery. Data is not currently available to quantify the number of anglers utilizing bait and corresponding hooking mortality rates for this fishery. However, given the extreme popularity and economic value of this fishery, coupled with the anadromous fish reintroduction efforts, it is contradictory to have more liberal angling regulations for the Crooked River than for the majority of other streams in the Central Zone.

F. Is the proposal supported by affected citizens and addresses an established social need?
There is strong support for the proposal within the fly angling community and area stakeholders associated with the anadromous fish reintroduction effort. There is also opposition to the proposal among members of the public who would prefer to retain the bait fishery in the general season to promote “family fishing” opportunity.

G. Easily understood with clearly defined limits or boundaries?
Yes, however, if implemented the language should be changed to state restricted to flies and lures only, rather than bait is prohibited.

H. Is the proposal enforceable?
Yes, the majority of streams within the Central Zone already have gear restrictions prohibiting the use of bait.

I. Regulation Context
There have been several previous proposals by both the public and staff to eliminate the use of bait on the Crooked River. These have been rejected by staff prior to review by the Commission since studies of the trout and white fish populations were being conducted and final results of studies were not available. New developments since previous attempts include: 1) increasing popularity of the fishery with the fly angling community, it is the premier stream destination in central Oregon, 2) flow management issues which continue to put pressure on maintaining a quality fishery and 3) the need to implement proactive measures to facilitate successful anadromous fish reintroduction. The first returning adult steelhead and Chinook will enter the Crooked River in 2012.

Section 4. Staff Recommendation

Recommend to be approved to go forward: District staff recommend the proposal go forward.

This proposal is likely to generate much discussion at the public meeting and it is recommended staff take this testimony into account prior to making a final determination.

Section 5. Final Review outcome, Fish Division. Approved to go forward in the Public Process.

Steelhead Falls outing, April 21, 2012. PHOTO: Yancy Lind
TYERS CORNER

I like to fish soft hackles as a system of two flies, either with a nymph or paired with a soft hackle of a different size and/or color. I fish them on a dead drift, on the swing or as part of a system of Czech nymphs. Soft hackles can be fished in many zones depending on how they are weighted.

Since caddis move a lot, the quality of your presentation isn’t as important. The fly is effective because it resembles many types of food forms. A soft hackle is always part of the choices that I give a fish whether in a lake or a river. This fly works really well on the lower Deschutes.

No Name Caddis

Hook: curved, caddis style in sizes 12-22 (The fly pictured is a size 20 tied on a Dai-Riki #135.)

Body: pearl core braid, regular/micro, tan, olive, or black (I like this material because it sparkles and perhaps makes the fly more noticeable to the fish or represents a gas bubble. (To taper the rear, stick the end into the side of a flame. This makes an even taper and keeps the braided material from fraying. I use the micro size on flies 18-22.)

Thorax: squirrel dubbing mixed with UV Tan Ice Dub (Use 2/3 squirrel to 1/3 tan UV ice dub. Add four turns of .015 lead wire to the thorax if you’re using a regular bead or those without a bead.)

Hackle: hen pheasant (I use the smaller feathers found on the shoulders of the wings. This material is more durable than partridge and has the mottled tans that I think are more like the colors found on stream insects.)

Bead: color of your choice (I like black nickel.)

Crooked River cleanup and outing, April 2012. PHOTOS: Todd Cary
A few days ago I heard the sad news that Bob Mullong passed away. Also known as “Bob the Fish Guy,” “Captain Caddis” or just “The Captain,” Bob was a key member of COF for many years and would appear prominently in any history of COF that could be compiled. His importance to the club is a story that should be told, but instead I would like to recount some personal memories and to tell a little about who he was, rather than focus on the many things he did for the club.

Bob was one of the most memorable individuals I have ever met. Although he was not among the best fly fishers I have known, he was at the top of the list of people with whom I most enjoyed fishing. A Bob Mullong camping trip was something not to be missed, even if he did have an uncanny knack for picking the most mosquito-infested camp spots in Central Oregon.

I met The Captain shortly after I joined COF. It was early in the club’s history. COF was meeting at the old fish hatchery building that once stood next to the pond in Shevlin park. That structure burned down many years ago and was eventually replaced with Aspen Hall. The old hatchery building was drafty and cold in the winter, but it had a large stone fireplace that helped a little. It was rustic, small and unpretentious. Bob Mullong fit right in.

I had joined COF because I was just beginning to get serious about fly fishing and wanted to receive the club newsletter, attend some programs and meet some people to go fly fishing with. At my first COF meeting, I noticed Bob sitting at one of the tables trying to tie flies and not doing very well at it. He was a short guy with a long white beard in a road-weary flannel shirt. He looked a little like some aging hippy. Later I found out that his favorite fly-fishing book was The Curtis Creek Manifesto. Very appropriate.

I think I appeared vividly on The Captain’s radar when I was taken to a fishing spot on the upper Crooked River that Bob considered to be his. Thom Porterfield had taken me to a small section of river upstream from Prineville Reservoir to fly fish for bass. The Captain had shown Thom the location a week or so prior. When he heard about my trip with Thom, I think The Captain regarded me with some suspicion as a kind of interloper, but that soon passed as we became friends.

I really got to know The Captain much better when I became president of COF sometime in the late 1980s. I was still relatively new to fly fishing, plus I had never held any sort of leadership position. I felt out of my comfort zone. The Captain more than anyone else made me feel right for the responsibility. The Captain was the club treasurer at the time, and he was the guy that picked up the club mail from our post office box. He would notify me of new members and other club business. He was very supportive and full of ideas for the club. He had been involved in habitat projects on Tumalo Creek (one of his favorite fishing destinations) and hatch-boxes that the club operated. This was before the youth program that The Captain was instrumental in starting, the program that eventually became Kokanee Karnival.

For awhile The Captain was also on the board of the Oregon Council of the Federation of Fly Fishers. He was on the S.T.E.P Steering Committee. He was on the Restoration and Enhancement Board and eventually became the board’s chairperson. He participated in the Angler Education program, contributing over 1,700 hours as a volunteer instructor beginning in 1993. As “Bob the Fish Guy,” he was the face of COF to countless school kids when we started doing classroom incubators. There are undoubtedly many other things that I am
leaving out of this piece, but as I said in the beginning, I really just wanted to share a few memories.

I went on numerous fishing trips with The Captain. I should probably refer to them as camping trips rather than fishing trips. The Captain always did more camping than fishing. He would usually show up driving an aging van. (He owned two well-traveled vans during the time I knew him.) The van was always stocked to the gills with an assortment of fishing gear (not all of it fly fishing), camping gear and other essential provisions. Tackle boxes piled upon plastic tubs piled upon boxes filled the back of the van. How he could keep track of everything in there is a mystery to me, but he seemed to have an accurate mental inventory of everything.

These camping trips were occasions for enjoying friendships and the outdoors. Fishing was often just the excuse for a pleasant day near a river or lake with friends. His wife Betsy frequently accompanied him. Other club members and people from outside the club often showed up. Many of the people who I have come to consider my friends I met directly or indirectly through The Captain.

There was the time in 1991 that I got a call from The Captain about a new member with an unusual name – Raven Wing. He thought I should investigate. Raven and I eventually became fishing partners and are best friends to this day. A couple years later, I got another call from The Captain about another new member – Bob Griffin. The Captain said Griffin was new to town and new to the club and was interested in going fishing with a club member on the Crooked River – BELOW the reservoir. Bob Griffin and I have subsequently become good friends and frequent fishing partners.

I remember an occasion as COF President when I was having a hard time getting a guest speaker for the club’s monthly meeting. It was during the summer and The Captain suggested that instead of having a speaker we should have a club picnic for the monthly club meeting. It sounded like a good idea to me, and so the tradition of the COF Annual Picnic began.

In recent years The Captain rarely attended monthly meetings despite his continued involvement in the club. He remained active in our youth program, and organized an outing to Prineville Reservoir to fly fish for crappie. Despite being absent at monthly meetings for the past few years, The Captain was almost always at the annual picnic. He loved picnics. It will be odd and sad not to see him there this year.

A memorial fund for Bob has been set up at all Bend Wells Fargo banks. Donations will be used to defray costs for a gathering of friends and family to celebrate and remember Bob.

Lizz Mullong requests that friends and acquaintances contact her with their name, phone number, email address and mailing address so she can send a formal invitation once a date and location have been set. Contact Lizz at 503-953-0368 or mullonglizz@yahoo.com.

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Activity</th>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td><strong>monthly board mtg.</strong></td>
<td>Environmental Center</td>
<td>Eric Steele (<a href="mailto:president@coflyfishers.org">president@coflyfishers.org</a>)</td>
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<td>May 2-7</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>OUTING</strong></td>
<td>Central Washington</td>
<td>Matt Paluch (<a href="mailto:mattpaluch@gmail.com">mattpaluch@gmail.com</a>)</td>
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<td>May 5</td>
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<td><strong>OUTING</strong></td>
<td>Davis Lake</td>
<td>Dave Semich (<a href="mailto:flyshndave@webinformix.com">flyshndave@webinformix.com</a>)</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
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<td><strong>CLASS</strong></td>
<td>Fly casting basics</td>
<td>Kathleen Schroeder (<a href="mailto:education@coflyfishers.org">education@coflyfishers.org</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>OUTING</strong></td>
<td>Deschutes R.</td>
<td>Yancy Lind (<a href="mailto:yancy_lind@ml.com">yancy_lind@ml.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Bend Senior Center</td>
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<td><strong>Tenkara demonstration</strong></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Mike Tripp (<a href="mailto:mtripp@bendcable.com">mtripp@bendcable.com</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Tenkara clinic</strong></td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Mike Tripp (<a href="mailto:mtripp@bendcable.com">mtripp@bendcable.com</a>)</td>
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<td>May 19</td>
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<td><strong>Youth Angling Day</strong></td>
<td>Bend Pine Nursery</td>
<td>Karen Kreft (<a href="mailto:youth@coflyfishers.org">youth@coflyfishers.org</a>)</td>
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**IN THE FUTURE**

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<td>Jun 1-3</td>
<td>Wild Women of the Water, Canyon Creek Ranch, Sherry Steele (<a href="mailto:steelefly@msn.com">steelefly@msn.com</a>)</td>
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<td>Jun 19-24</td>
<td>Chewaucan River, Rick Sironen (<a href="mailto:rick@nwqc.com">rick@nwqc.com</a>)</td>
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**NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES & FYI 2012**

- Fly fishing for beginners, Bend Parks and Recreation (http://www.bendparksandrec.org)
- May 4 & 5, Washington Fly Fishing Fair, Ellensburg, WA, Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com)
- May 4 & 5, Spey day at Orvis
- May 5 & 6, Fly fishing the Deschutes and other Western rivers, Deschutes Canyon Fly Shop (541-395-2565)
- Jul 10 to 14, FFF National Fly Fishing Fair, Spokane, WA, Sherry Steele (steelefly@msn.com)
- Oct 18 to 21, National Team USA Competition, Bend, OR, Matt Paluch (mattpaluch@gmail.com)

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**Central Oregon Flyfishers**

PO Box 1126 Bend, Oregon 97709

For advertising information, call Mike Shadrach at 541-678-5717.

**NEWSLETTER - Terri Grimm**