

Organized in 1971, the Rogue Flyfishers seek to promote fellowship among individuals and groups to further interest in the sport, to improve angling techniques, and to educate members and the public in ways to preserve and improve natural resources, environment, and conditions for fishing in the Rogue Valley.

# Rogue Flyfishers PO Box 4637 Medford, Oregon 97501 www.rogueflyfishers.org

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term

### **Committee Heads**

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E-mail Coordinator	Tom Collett	244-8030
Events Coordinator	Kellie Christensen	776-4094
Librarian	Curt Schlosser	646-2722
Librarian (Assistant )	Dick Chambers	608-9686
Marketing Committee	Mike LeTourneau	622-5733
Membership	John Bjorkholm	857-6147
News Editor	Steve Ostrander	772-0749
Outings	David Haight	855-9043
Roadside Cleanup	Bill Ackermann	857-6154
Youth Programs Director		
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	772-0749

# **PROGRAM**

### SEA KAYAKING AND TROUT FISHING IN CHILE



Many of you will remember the program last October by Eduardo Barrueto, owner of the Magic Waters Patagonia trout lodge. In March of this year John and Julie MacDiarmid, Bob Hunter and his brother Dave traveled to Coyhaique and fished with Eduardo. All rivers and lakes, with the exception of the Simpson R. that was off color, were crystal clear and they found several big dumb trout like the one Bob is holding in the accompanying photograph. The area is very scenic and looks like Montana, many of the peaks still had snow in the Southern Hemisphere late summer, early fall. The week before the lodge stay, Bob, Julie and John joined six other Rogue Valley folks for a five day kayaking trip in the Fiords of Chile, east of Golfo de Ancud, just south of Puerto Mott and North West of Coyhaique. John Ferris, a new club member, and his wife Mindy were along on the Kayaking trip and took some stunning photos. The kayakers had a 56' older wooden mother ship where they took their meals and slept in tents ashore. This program will consist of photos and stories of the two back to back adventures.

## President's Message

Do you know? Our club had contributed \$1000.00 to the efforts in support of SB 838. This bill passed both the House and Senate here in Oregon and the Governor signed it soon after. This bill supports the moratorium efforts on Suction Dredging. Please take some time and do a little research to further broaden your horizons on this issue.

We should all send Senator Alan Bates a letter thanking him for his dedication to making this an important issue and believing in it.

If you haven't seen what suction dredging can do to a river, travel north to exit 102 off of I-5. Along the South Umpqua River, large unnatural deep holes are created and followed by huge mounds of loose stones that in low water look like little volcanoes. This really changes the complexion and dynamics of the water flow along its banks. Erosion on outside bends in the river are really impacted, not to say anything about the aquatic life that is disturbed or destroyed. I'm not quite sure about the Gold Hill area of our valley, but last season I counted as many as nine dredges in the river. I'm sure I missed a couple of more.

Our club might be the only Southern Oregon fishing club to contribute to this effort. You can take pride in knowing that we do care about our area and others in Oregon.

There is another facet to this issue that bothers me. That is the invasive species issue. It is my belief that these units are not held to the same standard as other watercraft. Since California created its own moratorium on dredging, we are seeing a lot more California vehicles around the dredging areas. Why can you bring a water dredge into our waterways without inspection?

Our board has been behind these efforts for a long time. We have worked in supporting the coalition partners such as Waterwatch of Oregon, Rogue River Keeper, Oregon Wild, Trout Unlimited, Cascade Wildlands, Oregon Conservation Network, and others.

I want to thank the coalition members, John Ward (our Conservation Chairman), and all the others that made it possible to have this bill presented to our Governor. By him signing it into law is a very rewarding feeling.

Mike M.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

John Sully

## Reminder Volunteer Riparian Watering Day Aug. 3rd

Once again your help is needed to tend to a new Riparian Planting at Valley of the Rogue State Park on Saturday August 3rd. This is the fourth watering day of the season at Valley of the Rogue State Park. We will continue watering the planting every three weeks through August.

Please join us for any or all of the following mornings:

August 3rd August 24th

Come join the fun. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP so that we can plan for lunch, tools and other supplies.

Where: Valley of the Rogue State Park When: Saturday August 3rd from 9-12

#### RSVP: 541-261-7796

Please dress for the weather & bring your favorite work gloves. Long pants and shoes are recommended as there are some blackberries and other weeds in the area.

Your help and support are appreciated!

## Suction Dredging and Fly Fishing, by Tom Collett



I will not forget my first encounter with a dredger. It was a quiet Saturday morning and then suddenly it was a gasoline engine running for hours. The chosen likely spot was within a dozen feet of a beaver lodge and of course the beaver moved on to a more serene local. Oh boy, did I have a lot to learn.

Then came the speculation of the removal of the Gold Ray Dam. Before the Dam was removed, just the idea of the removal was enough to bring large concentrations of dredgers to the area below the dam.

With the removal of the dam the numbers of dredgers has increased and was likely to continue to climb. Finally all the talk and planning after several attempts to curtail the modern day gold rush a plan came forth, a plan that yielded results.

Senator Alan Bates introduced Senate Bill 838. SB838 was a moratorium on suction dredging. This would allow us to catch our breath and formulate a plan to for the future of how dredging might fit in with all the other river users. The mining interests went to work to defeat SB838. They even went to court to get SB838 declared

unconstitutional. It was a publicity stunt or a very lame attorney because if the law isn't on the books it can't be ruled on.

Senator Bates got a lot of push back on SB838 but he was able to get it moved forward to a vote in both houses and it passed in both houses. Along the way forward there was a compromise but the result was much better than leaving the door wide open for everybody to show up on our doorstep and dredge. Now there is a movement to recall Senator Bates. We might also expect legal challenges.

At this juncture it might be good for us to be more aware of just what the suction dredger is really doing in the riverbed. We already know about the gasoline engine running for hours and we avoid them and move on to do our fishing. Avoidance is good when you really want to catch a fish but as the numbers of dredgers grew we were losing fishable water.

Educate yourself. Go to "youtube.com" and in the search bar type in "bearkat4160". I counted 39 different videos on mining and suction dredging. Then you have to ask yourself, if I like this and do I want to stand aside, or do I take action?

#### **Steelhead Tournament**

It's time to start thinking of the October Steelhead Tournament. If you want to fish or volunteer your rowing skills please contact Will Johnson at The Ashland Fly Shop. If you can't fish or row, but can cook, I can use one or two members to help me cook the dinner for everyone there. The Date is October 5<sup>th</sup>. I will be doing most of the cooking at my home, then transporting it to Touvelle Park in the late afternoon. If you are interested, give me a call.

Mike Masters - 541-261-2243

### EXPANDED FLY TYING CLASSES OFFERED

The Southern Oregon Fly Tyers will be sponsoring fly tying classes this fall for beginners. We have a new location which will allow us to double the size of the class to 25 students. Vises and tools will be provided to those who need them. We will have a large staff of experienced tyers to provide plenty of one-on-one instruction. Classes will be held at First Baptist Church, in the Fireside room, beginning Monday, September 23rd from 6 to 9 pm and will run for 6 weeks. Sign-up sheets will be available at club meetings.

## **Needs fishing partner**

New member Julian Smith is looking for a fishing partner. He can be reached at 541-499-0767 or jlnsmith@aol.com. Help show him around the area when you have a chance.

## Easy Does It, Oarsmen and Fishers

By Otis D. Swisher

Oarsmen who spend time amidst the constant flows of any river have a way of finding "easy spots" which occur among the major surface currents. In these spots a boat can be held in place with a minimum of rowing effort. Some call them "dead spots."

A 16-foot drift boat can be difficult to hold in some places. That's the time and place to simply "go with the flow." The river will not be denied; it has its own "flow set", so you just go with it.

But, even those steady, unrelentingly powerful flows have the occasional "dead spot" where the turmoil of seemingly uninterrupted chaos has a bit of calmness; where the boat just "rests in place"; where the use of muscle power to the oars is not needed to hold the boat in place.

Ah! Relief for the oarsman.

Such spots occur sub-surface as well. Fish find them so they can hold in place with a minimum of energy. It is as if the fish can say to himself "I may be hydrologically designed to combat the turmoil of heavy flows; but, also, my life is in need of being able to hold in "resting places" which allows me to live differently than on the edge of exhaustion.

If you dare to think like a fish, it does sound pretty reasonable, doesn't it?

Conclusion: there are "soft spots" both on-surface and sub-surface to give pause for both oarsman and fish: just above large boulders; just below them, too; along the edge of fast and slow currents; even on some seemingly uninterrupted gradients. This last one deserves more space than I have in this piece to be able to cover it adequately. That will have to wait for another article. Until then, take it easy in your rowing and fishing by finding and storing in your memory those "soft spots" amidst the river's surface chaos.

## RFF Picnic 2013



## **Fishing Trespass Permit**

#### Gary Graham

Here is the Information for a Fishing Trespass Permit for the J-Spears Ranch area; which is located on the upper end of the Chewaucan River. Our club hosts an outing in August for the last 4-5 years and this permit allows you to fish more of the river, with out worrying about some the No Trespassing Signs. This permit does not include the M-Ranch Areas.

Club members planning on attending the Club Outing on the Chewaucan River during the summer of 2013 may wish to apply for a Fishing Trespass Permit from the J-Spears Ranch CO. Their office is located at 404 S 4th Street, K Falls, OR 97601-6168. The permit is free, good for a year and renewable.

Your request should contain a self address stamped envelope and a copy of your drivers license. The following are Prohibited Activities:

- \* off road Vehicles
- \* dogs, camping, fires
- \* artifact hunting, shooting
- \*littering, obstructing gates

Catch and release, fly fishing with barbless hooks only.

## **Chewaucan River Outing**

August 6 - 9 (Tuesday - Friday) Chewaucan River-Hosted by John Ward

## **Fourmile Lake Outing**

David Haight will lead a joint outing for the Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers to Fourmile Lake the weekend of August 17-18.

Fourmile is a beautiful, crystal-clear lake on east side of Mount McLoughlin. With a maximum depth of 170 feet and an elevation of 5744 feet, the lake's water stays cool, and the fishing can hold up well during the summer. The lake is heavily stocked with rainbow trout, many over 15 inches, which produces good fishing. Fourmile Lake also contains lake trout, kokanee, and brook trout. The lake trout do not tend to be very large, but seem to be easier to catch then they are in other lakes. Consequently, Fourmile Lake may be best place in Oregon to catch a lake trout on a fly.

To get to Fourmile Lake, turn north off Hwy 140 onto Forest Road 3661, then follow this gravel about seven miles to lake. There is a Forest Service campground at the lake. There is no boat ramp, but boats that don't require the trailer to be submerged deeply can be launched off the shallow beach near the campground.

We will meet at the boat launch area at 9:00 AM Saturday for a brief discussion about fishing the lake, and then spend the rest of the day fishing. Several of us plan to spend the night in the Forest Service campground and fish Sunday as well. Club members can come up for just the day or join us for the weekend.

Fourmile Lake can be fished effectively from the bank. Float tubes or pontoon boats will work, but given the size of the lake and that the wind can come up, boats are the best way to access the water. Six-weight rods are a good choice for the fishing conditions typically encountered at the lake. You should be prepared to fish a variety of depths, so bring floating, intermediate, and fast sinking lines. As is common in many high-elevation lakes, the trout in Fourmile Lake tend to be opportunistic feeders; thus, a variety of patterns will work. Typical lake patterns like woolly buggers, leeches, Carey Specials, damsel nymphs, and callabaetis nymphs work well for the rainbows. Since lake trout prey on other fish, they can be targeted with streamers; however, they will also take the same flies used to target the rainbows. Fourmile Lake is known for an abundance of mosquitoes, but they should be thinning out by mid August. Still, it would be a good idea to bring repellant. You should also remember sunscreen.

Fourmile Lake is often overlooked by fly anglers in the Rogue Valley. Given the great fishing it can provide throughout the summer and into the fall, and its close proximity to the valley, more fly fishers should give it a try.

David Haight, Outings Chair

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## SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FLY SHOP

The Ashland Fly Shop 399 E. Main Street at Third, Ashland 541-488-6454 Gary Anderson Custom Rods 1976 Foots Creek Road, Gold Hill 541-582-4318 The Fishin' Hole 21873 Hwy 62, Shady Cove 541-878-4000 Rogue Fly Shop 310 NW Morgan Lane, Grants Pass 541-476-0552 The Flyway Shop 9349 Hwy. 97 South, Klamath Falls 541-884-3825

Shasta Trout Guide Service www.shastatrout.com (530) 926-5763

## Rogue Fly Fishers membership Application and membership Renewal Form

Applying, or renewing, as (check one): **Individual** \_\_ (\$35.00), **Family** \_\_ (\$45.00), or **Junior** \_\_ (under 18, \$5.00) Member. (Note: New members joining Rogue Fly Fishers before June 30th pay a full year dues; new members joining after June 30th pay half dues. There is also a \$10 new member processing fee.) Dues accompany your application. With membership, you will receive a member's patch, membership directory, name badge, and letter of further information and welcome. Monthly dinner meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the month with a social Wet Fly from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. followed by dinner with raffle, announcements and club business, and program until approximately 9:00 p.m.

#### Renew in December for the following year.

Name:	If a family membership,
List Family Member's Names	_ <del>-</del>
Address	
Best Contact Telephone Numbers: Area CodeNumb	er
(2nd best) <b>Number</b>	
E-mail Address:	
If you do not want your e-mail address in the membership directory, Are you <b>retired</b> ? Yes No <b>Do you have a drift boat</b> ? Yes 1	<u> </u>
Prefer using the <b>Online Newsletter</b> (quickest receipt and saves t Amount enclosed . Mail completed form and payme	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •