



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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PROGRAM

This is a reminder to send in your reservations for the
Annual WINE DINNER at Daisy Creek
 Vineyard
 Saturday August 12th

The DEADLINE to get your reservation in is August 2nd.
 Seating is limited and reservations are required.

Payment is due in advance to reserve your seat.

Cost is \$25 per person.

See our website www.rogueflyfishers.org for details

This Wine Dinner takes the place of the regular dinner meeting in August. No other meeting will be held.

Please mail your payments to:
 Rogue Flyfishers P.O. Box 4637 Medford, OR 97501
 Indicate "Wine Dinner" on your check memo.

STEELHEAD TOURNAMENT

Once again its time to start making plans and reserving the date for our annual "Steelhead Tournament." This year the tournament will be held on Saturday, October 7th. After a day of fishing, Steve Day will be putting on a fantastic Tri-Tip BBQ with plenty of cold refreshments at TouVelle State Park (Family is welcome). This is the club's second largest fundraiser, supplementing our conservation, scholarship, and general fund. Please come out and join us. We need as many participants as we can get. We also need as many drift boats and experienced oarsmen as we can get to make this a fun day of fishing. More information will be coming on this event. If you have any questions, please call or text, Keith Hardcastle 760-937-2328



The Biomechanics of Distance Casting

by G.T. Moran & A.R. Kyte (1992)

Part 3: Differences in the Forward Cast Between the Elite and Good Casters John MacDiarmid

Two months ago I reviewed the set up of this casting study. Twenty very good casters were brought into the Gym at U. C. Berkeley and cast while the cameras were rolling. All casters used the same 7wt. rod and line and they all held the line at the same place with their line hand so the same amount of line was aerialized. They then shot line for a maximum distance cast. One half the casters with a mean average casting distance of 80 feet were called the Elite Casters and the other half with a mean distance of 71 feet were called the Good Casters. The investigators then played back the videos to determine the casting differences of the two groups; Part 2 last month looked at the backcast differences between the two groups, this third installment discusses differences in the forward cast between the two groups.

ROD LOAD The Elite Casters bent the rod on average 6 degrees more than the Good Casters. There is no surprise here, the Elite Casters cast further, their rods should be bent more. Moran and Kyte concluded this is the most critical variable in casting for distance.

TIMING OF MAXIMUM DEFLECTION All Elite and 2 Good Casters had maximum rod load right before the stop. This resulted in a straight line path of the rod tip. Seven Good Casters had maximum rod bend a little early and the rod tip did not follow a straight line path. If the tip does not follow a straight line path then the line does not launch and maintain a straight line delivery. Energy is loss with this early loading/unloading.

STROKE LENGTH The Elite Casters had an average casting stroke 6 inches longer than the Good Casters. The stroke length is the total horizontal movement of the rod hand. It is not rotation. The Elites had an average stroke length of 4.8' while the Good had a 4.3' stroke length.

CASTING ARC The casting arc refers to the angle from the stop on the back cast to the stop on the forward cast. It is the total rotation of the rod from the back cast to the forward cast. To maintain the straight line path of the rod tip during the cast, this arc increases as the rod bend increases. Since the Elite Casters bent the rod more than the Good Casters, their casting arcs were greater.

BODY MASS USE Six of the Elites used a pronounced body shift while only one Good Caster used significant body shift.

QUICK, EFFECTIVE LONG HAULS Eight of the Elites and 3 of the Good casters had effective, quick long hauls.

WRIST ADDUCTION The Good Casters rotated their wrist 45 degrees while the Good Casters had a 35 degree wrist rotation.

HARD STOP Some of the Elite Casters were able to stop their forward cast in 1 degree, the group average was 6 percent while the Good Casters took 11 degrees to completely stop the rod.

Moran and Kyte felt like the rod load was the most critical variable between the two groups. Two other critical variables were the timing of the maximum rod deflection,(It needs to be just before the stop .) and the effectiveness of the stop.

SUMMARY AND APPLICATION

In thinking about this information and our recreational casting it is important to remember this study is about distance casting by pros, not recreational casting where we lay a Callibaetis merger gently on the lake 30 to 40 feet away. We may use some of the distance casting moves to lay out a long line swinging the fly for steel head in the Rogue or bombing a streamer out on the lake, but we don't rock back and forth and have a stroke length of 4' or more. This is advanced stuff used in competition casting on the grass or casting ponds. Most of us are just trying to make nice loops without tails. However, it is important to note how important it is to develop a straight line path of the rod tip on both the back cast and the forward cast, AND develop a hard stop to sling the line. A soft stop is like pulling back a bow and then letting off a few inches before the arrow is released. A straight line path of the rod tip during the cast will produce a straight line top leg of the loop for greater accuracy and distance for the amount of power in the casting stroke. Almost all of us could improve our delivery with the straight line path of the rod tip and a hard stop.

Dave Hamilton

It is with much sadness that I announce the passing of long time club member and master fly tyer Dave Hamilton. Dave passed away on Friday, July 21st after a long battle with cancer.

Cathy Hamilton asks that the club members refrain from any phone calls to her for the present time and also if anyone is so inclined, in lieu of flowers they can make a donation in Dave's name to the American Cancer Society. Cathy also indicated that there will not be a service for Dave, but she plans for a remembrance of life/ memorial in the near future.

Dave may you always have the sun shining warmly on your face, with a gentle breeze at your back and the perfect fly, tied by you, to fish in all of heaven's streams – tight lines old friend.

August Outing: Halfpounders on Lower Rogue

One of the fish that makes the Rogue such a special river are the halfpounders—12 to 16-inch steelhead that return to the river after spending only a few months in the ocean. The Rogue is one of only a few rivers that support this unique run of young steelhead, which spend the fall and winter in the river before returning to the ocean again prior to their first spawning run. Halfpounders are great gamefish. They eagerly take flies and fight like crazy once hooked. When the fish are in, the action can be fast.

The Rogue Flyfishers will head to Agness for an outing on August 19th and 20th to fish for these miniature steelhead. We will meet at the Cougar Lane Restaurant in Agness (located on the south side of the Rogue River a short distance above the mouth of the Illinois River) for breakfast

at 8:00 AM each morning. Those that don't want to eat should arrive by 9:00. After a short discussion about equipment, flies, techniques, and locations; we will head to various access points along the river. There is a lot of good bank access in the Agness area, as well as several good drifts for those with boats.

Agness is less than a three-hour drive from Medford over the Bear Camp Road, so it is possible to get an early start and come over just for a day. Be aware, however, that there will be a marked detour on the Agness side of the route. For those that want to spend the night, there are plenty of options. There are Forest Service campgrounds at Quosatana Creek and Foster Bar, the Agness RV Park (541-247-2813, www.rogueriverrvpark.com) is next door to Cougar Lane, and rooms are available at Cougar Lane (541-247-7233, www.cougarlane.com), as well as several other lodges in the area. A good selection of motels and restaurants are available 28 miles downstream in Gold Beach as well.

A six-weight rod with a floating line is ideal for halfpounders. Light-weight Spey or switch rods also work great. The traditional way to fish halfpounders is to swing hair-wing steelhead flies through runs and tailouts. Good patterns include Golden Demon, Del Cooper, Skunk, Silver Hilton, Burlap, Brindle Bug, Tiger Paw, Golden Rogue, and Red Ant, all in Size 8 or 10. Nymphing is productive as well, even during the middle of the day. Hare's Ear, Pheasant Tail, Prince Nymph, Copper John, Bloody Mary, Glimmer Nymph, and Flashback Nymph in size 10 or 12 are good choices. Chinook salmon will be in the river as well, so you may also want to bring along a heavier outfit.

If you have never fished for halfpounders, you really should give it a try. They are a lot of fun. For those that are new to fly fishing for steelhead, they offer a great introduction to the sport.

David Haight, Outings Chair

Kid Event in August

RFF has been invited to a Nature Day Camp out at Pacifica Gardens in Williams this August. We will provide tying and fishing at Heron Pond on the Pacifica campus. The pond is full of bluegill and bass. They have yet to decide the final date for us but it will be at the end of the month 8/28 thru 8/31. They expect around 10 kids aging from 6-12. It will be roughly a two hour session starting at 9:30 AM on one of the mornings mentioned. We did this event in 2015 and it took about 6 folks to pull it off. You can take a look at the RFF September 2015 newsletter to get a visual including shots of our own Jim Harleman. You can also check out the Pacifica Gardens website for specifics on location.

In 2015 we fished with the famous yellow foam spider that Otis invented. The bluegill loved it !!! We will tie The usual wooly buggar for them to take home. There's a nice grassy bank to cast from. Our guys cast the fly especially with the younger kids then the youngster got to bring the fish in. Lots of smiles were had by all.

Hope you can make it this year, Ken Bonsi 541-899-9981, email address: kenbonsi@gmail.com

Please call or email me by August 10th if you want to help out. Include your contact info as well as which day of the week from the range stated might work better for you.

Jim and Otis obviously left a rich legacy of working with our youth. Let's continue to follow their tradition.

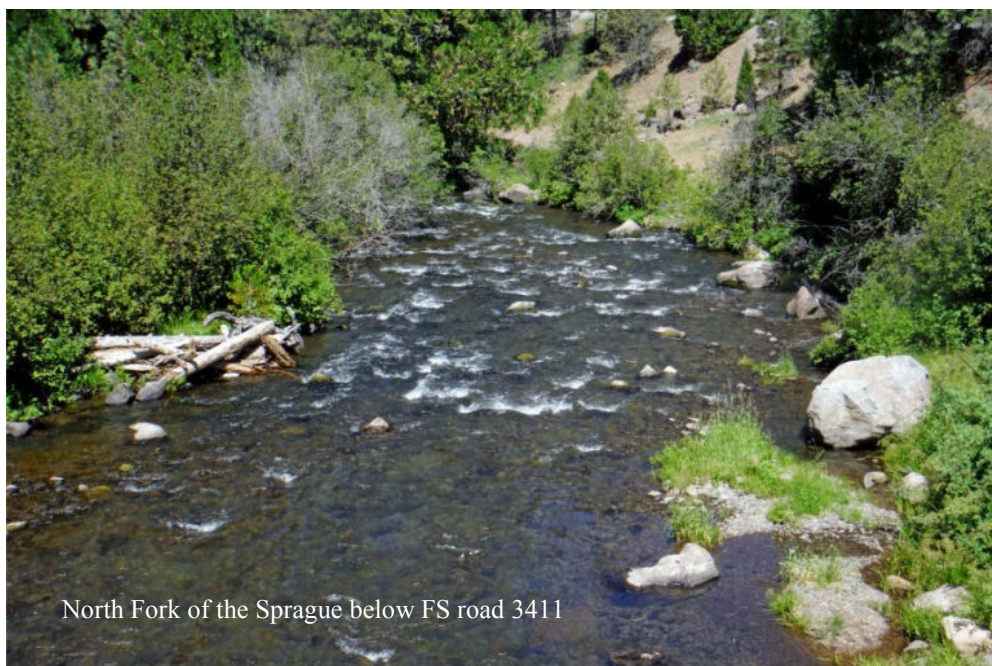
TWO RIVERS Outing: North Fork Sprague River & Chewaucan River

Grand adventure: Four Guys, four-days fishing in solitude and sneakers by noon Friday. Steady flows, new waters, freestone river with structure, hunting BIG trout under good cover. The 58°F North Fork Sprague “Elbow” yielded early action when Elliot Stone caught and released his first Bull Trout on a purple foam beetle downstream of FS road #3411 bridge. Elliot also started upstream with Royal Wulff, switched to Elkhair Caddis, caught and released a 16-inch Brown trout. Doug Bolgiano was close behind with a 14-inch brown trout. They continued with success until lunch at 2:30. Ward went upstream to nice runs, riffles, and glides and connected to a fat 10-inch Rainbow with Parachute Purple Peril. More wet wading downstream brought fresh success to Doug and Elliot. Meanwhile Gary Graham drove directly to try for an Adirondack Shelter at Happy Camp on the Chewaucan side, and to fish Dairy Creek.

In 2010, FS #3411 bridge replaced an under-size, perched culvert, restoring native fish access to about one hundred miles of upstream spawning and rearing habitat; half was critical to threatened Klamath River Bull Trout. Native fish colonized this new habitat and fishing improved. Despite great fishing we caravanned on to test the North Fork Sprague River up- and down-stream at Sandhill Crossing Campground and were encouraged. Next morning waters were cooler and rewarded everyone with several fish. After lunch, we moved on to Happy Camp Campground on Dairy Creek to meet up with Gary Graham. A brief test showed a few takes so we were hopeful of better results Sunday on J-Spear Ranch. Gary’s early arrival had secured a convenient Appalachian shelter we appreciated as was the terrific steak dinner he prepared that evening. Both were delightful accent notes on a slow day fishing Dairy Creek.



Elliot Stone, Doug Bolgiano, Gary Graham, John Ward



North Fork of the Sprague below FS road 3411



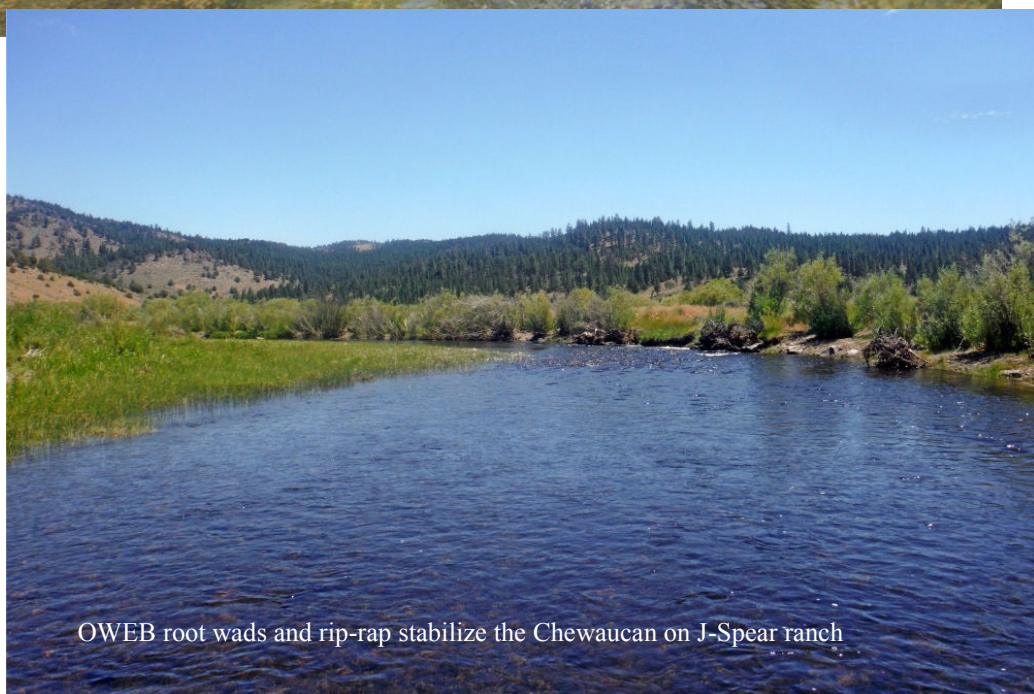
Doug Nolgiano working Sandhill Crossing undercut north Fork of the Sprague

An early start Sunday took us to an isolated part of the J-Spear Ranch where the Chewaucan River curls down from the North to cross a huge basin punctuated centrally by two distinct tan knobs, Jack and Jenny Buttes. We watched about 25 antelope in two bands streak across the brushy sage headed north, and parked at riverside, geared up and wet waded to the eastern bank. The Chewaucan was much wider than usual, warm at mid-60's °F and very clear, freestone with sand and abundant pebble-cased caddis and often fresh water mussel shells. Doug headed downstream to catch and release 3 Rainbow. Upstream, Gary caught and released 8 Rainbow and one Brookie, Ward also released a Rainbow. The group switched after Gary's tailgate lunch but the fish stayed shy; Gary got aerial action from two sizeable trout but banked none. Neither Doug's Grasshopper nor PT Nymph below a wool indicator brought action; John's Caddis and Adams drew no response. We returned to camp at 7:10 pm where Gary served a welcome shrimp and pasta with mixed salad dinner. Good news: cell service now at Happy Camp!

Monday was a leisurely start with Doug heading first to Dairy Creek on J-Spear where PT Nymph below yarn indicator brought in some chunky Redbands. Later, on the way to Paisley he stopped at a likely Chewaucan spot near MP 10 and dropped in the same indicator and took a gorgeous Redband from the undercut bank he stood on! Doug stayed another night and returned to fish the Chewaucan near FS #3510 bridge. He met a cowboy herding cattle who was Martin Murphy, owner of the Murphy Ranches. Mr. Murphy said Doug was welcome to fish on his property. Great future contact for another Adventure! John and Gary turned homeward later Monday.



North Fork of the Sprague above #3411 bridge



OWEB root wads and rip-rap stabilize the Chewaucan on J-Spear ranch



Gary Graham on the Chewaucan behind Jack and Jenny buttes

The Rogue-Three-Step

Paul Rickerson

Have you ever done the Rogue-three-step with a couple of weighted nymphs?

I hadn't, until Otis taught me.

In fact, Otis gave and taught me so many things.

You see, getting the nymphs in the water is only the first step.

Where in all that water do you cast it? Otis taught me that too.

And what type of nymphs do you use to attract those wary steelhead?

Turns out, Otis can tie a variety of flies that fish find most attracting.

He gives them away. I always take a few of whatever he's tied because I know, he knows.

By now, I've caught a lot of steelhead on Otis tied flies.

But how to get down the river to entice those beauties on hand tied flies?

Well, Otis of course.

He was brave and trusting enough to teach an absolute beginner how to row a drift boat.

Sometimes, my rowing was not, how should I say, exactly spot on. Yea, there were some errors.

What might you do different? Next time you'll get it, Otis might say in his positive and encouraging tone.

With a boat, there's a lot of river and a lot places to both spend and waste time. Where to try?

No worries. Otis knows all the best places and water characteristics that are likely to hold fish.

But what about other fly fishing techniques? I mean, instead of nymphs.

That's easy. You just watch Otis cast or skate dry flies or swing and nimbly twitch emergers.

You know, he can still cast a dry fly further and with greater accuracy sitting down, than I can standing up!

And oh, the excitement when you see one coming to that floating hand tied Otis fly.

Was that your blue dun that just got eaten?

This one must be ten, maybe eleven inches.

Funny thing though, just listening to Otis' enthusiasm, you really couldn't tell if the fish was six or twenty six inches!

The fish . . . a fish . . . ate his fly. Size really didn't matter.

You know, fly fishing leader and knots are small with loops and turns that have to be done just so.

Did I mention patience and persistence? Otis taught me these attributes as well.

Yes, my experiences and life was greatly expanded after I learned to do the Rogue-three-step.

Where would you like to fish today?

Your choice he'd say, you know the river and you're rowing.

I am thankful and honored that I had the opportunity to learn so much and share such memorable time with Otis, my teacher and friend.

Gary Lewellyn, DMD

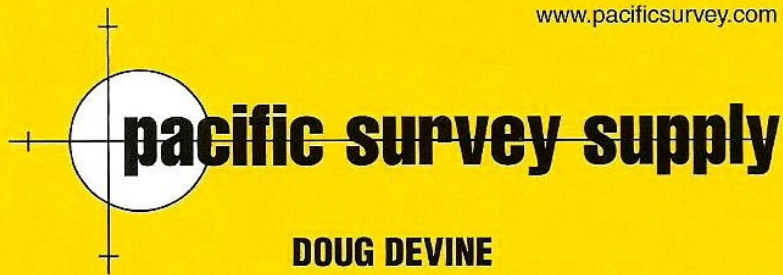


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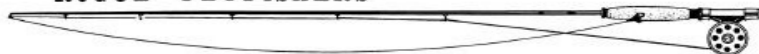
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Rogue Fly Fishers membership **Application** and membership Renewal Form

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.
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.

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