



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 the natural resources, environment, and conditions for fishing in the Rogue Valley.

NEWSLETTER

December 2011

	Name	Telephone	Last Board Yr.	Committee Heads	Name	Telephone
President	Kellie Christensen	776-4094	2012	Conservation	John Ward	482-2859
V.President	Mike Masters	261-2243	2011	E-mail Coordinator	Tom Collett	855-8943
Treasurer	Bill Brock	488-2356	2012	Librarian	Curt Schlosser	646-2722
Secretary	Bill Childress	846-1514	2011	Librarian (Assistant)	Dick Chambers	608-9686
Board member	Bill Ackermann	857-6154	2012	Membership	John Bjorkholm	857-6147
Board member	Dick Chambers	608-9686	2011	News Editor	Steve Ostrander	772-0749
Board member	David Haight	855-9043	2012	Outings	Kellie Christensen	776-4094
Board member	John Ward	482-2859	2012	Roadside Cleanup	Bill Ackermann	857-6154
Board member	Lee Wedberg	826-3718	2011	Youth Programs Director		
Board member	Will Johnson	488-6454	2012	Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	772-0749

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: rogueflyfishers.org

REFLECTIONS Christmas Dinner with the Club



Wednesday, December 21, 2011
Red Lion Hotel - 200 North Riverside in Medford
Wet Fly Social Hour 6 to 7
Buffet Dinner and raffle at 7 PM

Our annual holiday dinner is called "Reflections" and it is just that—a look back at what we have been up to for the past year. There will be several interesting and humorous stories for your listening pleasure. Those of you who have attended in past years know what fun it can be. Come laugh at ourselves and applaud our victories.

President's Message—December 2011

Hello fellow fly fishers. As this year draws to a close, I wish to address a few items in my message this month in the hopes that it will be read and noted by all.

STICKING AROUND: I have agreed to serve you for one more year in my current capacity if you will have me. I look forward to all we can do in 2012.

DUES NEWS: Several people have asked why they are not getting their newsletters. After doing some research we have determined that some of the folks not receiving newsletters are actually "non-members" because they did NOT pay their dues last year. Not paying your dues drops you from the membership. If you are not getting your newsletter after you HAVE paid your dues, please contact myself, John Bjorkholm (your membership chairman) or Steve Ostrander (your newsletter guru).

DUES are as follows for 2012

Individual Membership—\$35 per year Family Membership—\$45 per year

New Members (after January 1, 2012) \$35 or \$45 plus a one time \$10 processing fee

Your board has carefully examined our budget and feel that a \$5 increase per membership is completely in line with current expenses.

(PERSONS EXPERIENCING SERIOUS FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS DUE TO LOSS OF EMPLOYMENT OR OTHER LIFE CHANGING FACTORS MAY APPLY FOR A "DUES SCHOLARSHIP." We are a club who works to help active members retain their membership by showing our support during trying times.

(All requests for assistance will be kept confidential. Contact Kellie for more information.)

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS: Our "Reed Ryan Fund" guarantees our continuing work in fish habitat restoration and preservation. Contributions made to "The Rogue Flyfishers" and designated to the "Reed Ryan Fund" should be made before December 31, 2011 for persons wishing to claim it on their tax return next year. We are a 501 C3 non-profit corporation and a receipt will be issued to every contributor.

BOARD POSITIONS NEED TO BE FILLED: We are in need of three people willing to serve on the Board of The Rogue Flyfishers. **Previous experience is NOT necessary!** Board meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 6 PM at the Lions Club in downtown Medford. Meetings generally last 1 to 1 1/2 hours and we REALLY need a few folks willing to donate a little time to help our club continue. You can be a board member even if you can't make all the meetings! We are especially interested in getting some of our newer members on the board as your "fresh" input and "new eyes" will help us continue to serve our members as effectively as possible! PLEASE CONSIDER JOINING OUR BOARD!

Contact Kellie at kclmbr@msn.com or 776-4094.

MAKING THE ROGUEFLYFISHERS A GREAT CONSERVATION CLUB IS OUR GOAL

If you have suggestions for improvement, PLEASE let us know!

HAPPIEST OF HOLIDAYS TO ONE AND ALL!

YEAR 2011 OUTSTANDING CLUB MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

The Outstanding Club Member of the Year Award is given each January to a member (s) as recognition for significant contributions to The Rogue Flyfishers. If you know of a club member worthy of this award, please submit the candidates name and qualifications to the Board of Directors either by regular mail, email or telephone. This award is given to a paid member who has contributed to the achievement of the club as set forth in the RFF Bylaws, Article 1. You may use the form below and mail it to: Rogue Flyfishers, PO Box 4637, Medford OR 97501

-----Cut here-----

I recommend the following person or persons for the Year 2011 Outstanding Club Member of the Year Award:

My recommendation is based on the following:

Shasta Trinity Fly Fishers Tying Expo

The Shasta Trinity Fly Fishers in conjunction with The Fly Shop, NCCFFF and Redding's Turtle Bay Museum will have a fly tying expo in Redding, California, on February 18 and 19, 2012.

The fly tying expo will be in the middle of the three month-long Turtle Bay Museum fly fishing exhibition, "Fly Fishing, The Art of Deception".

Turtle Bay Museum and The Fly shop are preparing the exhibition with the help of the Shasta Trinity Fly Fishers. The exhibition will run from January 28 to April 15, 2012. It will feature fly fishing and tying equipment as far back as the 1800's. There will be early models of float tubes, fly rods, fly reels, fly lines, waders and tying vises, along with plenty of pictures in addition to the latest equipment available. Some of the items will be coming from the Federation of Fly Fishers national museum in Livingston, Montana.

On February 18 and 19 Tyers from northern California and Oregon will be featured. There will be morning (10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and afternoon (1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.) tying sessions on Saturday and Sunday.

In addition, the Shasta Trinity Fly Fishers annual banquet is Saturday, February 18, in Redding at the Win River Casino. There will be plenty of raffle prizes, a silent auction and live auction all mixed in with a lot of fun. The cost is \$40.

Stay tuned for more information on the STFF website, www.shastatrinityflyfishers.org, the Turtle Bay Exploration Park website, www.turtlebay.org, and NCCFFF website, www.nccfff.org. Any questions, contact Dick Recchia, rdservices@frontiernet.net or Dick Johnson, rwj530@hotmail.com

New Year's Day Chili Feed

As the holiday season approaches, we all start looking forward to one of the most magical days of the year: That's right—New Year's Day and the Holy Water Chili Feed. That special day when members of the Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers join together to celebrate the joys of fly fishing.

We will meet at the picnic shelter near the parking lot on the south side of the Holy Water. The fire should be going by 10 AM, and the chili will be served about noon. There will be opportunities to fish both before and after we eat.

We do need a few volunteers to make pots of chili, and a person or two to bring some fire wood. If you can help with either of these items, please contact David Haight. Others can help out by bringing cornbread, salads, desserts, or other items to share. The clubs will provide hot drinks and table service.

The trout population in the Holy Water has improved significantly over the past several years, so if conditions are favorable, we should enjoy some good fishing. Stripping or drifting small marabou leeches, woolly buggers, or nymphs along the bottom can be productive during the colder months. If the weather and flows cooperate, we could have a blue-winged olive or midge hatch. If you are going to fish, remember to get your 2012 fishing license.

No matter the weather, we always have a great time at this event. Come on out and enjoy a hot bowl of chili, a warm fire, great company; and the chance to catch that first fish of the year.

ROSTER CHANGES

Harry Piper's e-mail address is steeliepiper@gmail.com

IN MEMORIAM

Charter member Gary Warren passed away in November. Gary was very active in The Rogue Flyfishers and his devotion of time and energy resulted in making the Holy Water a "Fly Only Zone." We are grateful for his contributions to our club. A sympathy card was sent to his wife Marsha and family on behalf of the Rogue Flyfishers earlier this month.

BEAR CREEK TREE PLANTING

Seven RFF members volunteered to help plant riparian vegetation along Bear Creek at the Rogue River confluence on November 19: **Bill Ackermann, John Bjorkholm, Dick Chambers, Mick Cuffe, Edmund Daniel, Dan Frank, and John Ward.** This organized Conservation activity assisted Seven Basins Watershed Council and other organizations by planting container grown Ponderosa Pine trees, cottonwood and other deciduous trees, and a wide variety of shrubs plus several hundred freshly cut local willow stakes. By spring these plants will be well rooted for improved bank stability, and in time, the added shade will also help maintain lower water temperature.

RFF Volunteers Plant Bear Creek left to right:
Bill Ackermann, John Bjorkholm, Dick Chambers, John Ward and Dan Frank



RFF Volunteers, left to right:
Bill Ackermann, Dan Frank, Dick Chambers and Mick Cuffe

SOFT

The Southern Oregon Fly Tyers invite you to attend their meetings the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is December 13, 2011. The meetings start at 6:00 PM, at the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park community building near Gold Hill. Bring a friend, come early so you don't miss anything, and stay late. Tyers need not be experienced, and those with all levels of skill are welcome. Each meeting a member is encouraged to demonstrate a new or different skill, from simple to difficult. For more information, call Dan Kellogg at 773-4724.

DIRECTIONS: Take Gold Hill Exit #40, off of I-5 and go west, toward Jacksonville, 1.3 miles, until you reach the brick entrance way to the Madrone Hill Mobile Home Park on the right. You'll pass a golf course parking lot on your left shortly after leaving the freeway. After you turn right into the mobile home park, proceed to the community building which is located about 100 yards ahead on the left. The address is 8401 Old Stage Rd. Please park your vehicle on the bare dirt in the parking lot to avoid the wooden septic covers in the grass

LEADERS

At the annual picnic casting competition/games the subject of leaders came up and I thought I would review the issue for the club. Leaders do more than separate the fly from the line, they first, transmit the power of the cast to the fly and second assist in a no drag fishing situation. Competition leaders and fishing leaders differ substantially because the goals are different. In competition, the goal is to hit the target or achieve distance, there is no concern for drag. Competitors tend to use stiff and big leaders. The BUTT section of the leader should be two thirds the diameter of the fly line to continue a smooth transfer of power or energy, the balance of the leader, whether hand tied or tapered should step down accordingly. Generally I use a 1X leader for target casting with a 5 or 6 wt. line. I am not concerned with the diameter of the tippet, it is the butt section that is important for the smooth transfer of power and the 1X leaders usually have a large butt section. Some manufacturers will use the same butt section diameter for a line of say trout leaders (as opposed to steelhead, streamer or bass). I am not sure that is a good idea for fishing or target practice and I tend to not buy these. If a leader package does not state the butt section diameter, I definitely don't buy them. Many knowledgeable casters are very concerned with stiffness of the leader and a good stiff leader material is Maxima Chameleon. In the words of one caster, that stuff will turn over a bowling ball. With a good stiff leader of the proper diameter, that yarn fly will sail to the bulls eye and stay there...with a little practice. The Butt section of fishing leaders should also be two thirds the diameter of the fly line but in trout fishing, the tippet will vary significantly from tournament casting. Teaching fly fishing, I tell my students don't give trout too much credit for thinking...think single digit I.Q. BUT, trout do know and drag better than most trout anglers and drag on a dry fly will result in a refusal. The solution; a wimpy, long tippet leader. If your fly is not working and you know you are matching the hatch, increase the tippet length or reduce the tippet size, both will usually reduce drag.

John MacDiarmid FFF, CCI

SPEY CASTING CLASSES

Will Johnson of The Ashland Fly Shop will be offering spey casting classes from 10 AM to 2 PM on the third Sunday of every month at TouVelle Park. Classes are free of charge

SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE TROUBLE WITH YOUR CAST

This guy from Texas fishing this week on the Big Thompson outside of Estes Park. It was his first ever fly-fishing venture. He encountered a small problem.

A crowd gathered on the highway to take pictures, including a Denver Post guy. One of the pictures is on the front page of the Denver post.



Apparently still practicing "catch and release". The elk probably was an out of season catch anyway.

On The Fly

December 2011

Fly tying is a school from which we never graduate"

PATTERN OF THE MONTH – Skykomish Sunrise

Hook: Daiichi 2441, Salmon/Steelhead, 4-8.
Thread: 6-0 red.
Tag: Flat silver tinsel, small
Tail: Red over yellow, Golden Pheasant crest.
Rib: Oval silver tinsel, small.
Body: Red seal sub.
Hackle: Red over yellow saddle.
Wing: White kid goat.
Head: Tying thread.



Tying Instructions

- Step 1 Mash the barb and mount the hook in the vise.
Step 2: Start the thread one eye width behind the eye and lay down an even thread base to a position just above the hook point.
Step 3: Tie in the flat tinsel at this point. Wind rearward 4 turns and then forward 4 turns. Tie off and trim excess.
Step 4: Select a yellow crest feather, measure 2/3 body length, and tie on with the curve up at the front end of the tag. Repeat the process with the red color. Trim the excess at the front end of the body area and tie down on top of the shank with spiral wraps forward and back.
Step 5: Tie in a length of oval tinsel at the base of the tail and leave hang to the rear for the rib later.
Step 6: Form a dubbing loop at the base of the tail, advance the thread to the front of the body, insert the red seal sub sparsely into the loop, twist the loop into a rope, and wind the dubbing rope forward to the thread location. Tie off and trim.
Step 7: Wind the rib forward over the body with 5 evenly spaced spiral turns. Tie off and trim excess.
Step 8: Select a yellow hackle feather with barbs reaching almost to the hook point, tie in by the tip, and wind forward 3 turns while stroking the barbs rearward on each half turn. Tie off and trim excess. Repeat the process with the red hackle feather in front of the yellow.
Step 9: Select a small bunch of kid goat hair from the hide, do not stack, measure length from the end of the tail, and tie on just in front of the hackle. Tie off with tight turns and trim the excess at an angle toward the eye.
Step 10: Use a drop of super glue to secure the wing to the shank, then form a neat tapered head and cement.

The birth of the Skykomish Sunrise pattern goes back to 1938, though there are conflicting accounts of it's history. It was created by father and son Steelheaders, Ken and George McLeod of Seattle for the winter runs, and tied as a gift for George's brother. Of course it was named for and inspired by the beautiful sunrises on the Skykomish River in Western Washington State. In the 1950's McLeod himself set a fly rod world record catching a 29 pound steelhead on the fly. Since then the Skykomish Sunrise has been a staple for Steelheaders throughout the Northwest and into the Great Lakes area. This fly is tied with traditional bright, flashy red and white materials in order to gain the fish's attention in the often cold, murky flows of winter and spring. Originally tied with Polar Bear for the wing and a chenille body, the version pictured above is a modern twist that I prefer.

The fly sinks quickly and a well-tied pattern will ride smooth and proper in rougher currents. Fish it with a wet fly swing, casting up and across stream. For the fanatical winter steelhead fly fisher a good day is 40 degrees and nasty. That's when thousand of these hearty and seemingly foolish fish come up streams while most other fish in the region are doing nothing at all. There is not a more crazed fisher than the winter steelhead fly fisher. Here's your fly.

Tying tips:

There are several material substitutions that will make this pattern doable for any tier. Sub saddle hackle barbs for the tail and chenille for the body. Leave off the tag if you want and use calf, fox, or buck tail for the wing. The result should be just as effective using common materials. Use a heavy gauge wire hook and keep it somewhat sparse. You want it to sink down in front of that steely.

So tie some up, give them a test flight, and let me know how you do.

Tie One On,
Dan Kellogg, (you can contact me at: flyguy@eznorthwest.com)
www.tyerstoolshop.com

What can WE Do?

I was very proud to represent our club during the tour of the Little Butte Creek Meandering Project that we helped fund. It was a great trek along the creek with Bill Childress and Bill Brock. What an amazing feat to put the Creek back to its original pathway. My hat goes off to all that had a hand in it.

We should be doing more along these same lines as projects come up. I know some of our members contribute in many ways. We can use lots more. There are many Conservation projects we can assist with. We should be very Thankful this time of year for the graces we share living in the Rogue Valley.

I'm now appealing to your desire to help continue to keep our club in the forefront of your thoughts and concerns to keep it rolling as a project leader. We need help in many ways; we have opportunities to assist in little or bigger projects. We need everyone to contribute something each and every year to help us with all our projects.

Here are some thoughts for you to consider:

1. We need members to step up and become Board Members, no physical work necessary, just 2 hours a month to help us decide our future paths.
2. We need physical assistance in our Riparian planting projects. These will be ongoing projects with conjunction with many of our allies here in the Rogue Valley.
3. Volunteer for a committee seat
 - a. Outings
 - b. Speakers
 - c. Conservation
 - d. Auction
 - e. Steelhead Tournament

We need everyone's help with our Annual Auction! I'm asking for help now. I need some of you to step up and help us raise the monies we need so that we can continue to fund our future projects. We contributed almost one half of our Auction proceeds last year to the Little Butte Creek Project. We raise an average of \$8,000 – \$15,000 dollars each year from our Auction Night. It should be something that every member takes pride and ownership in wanting to make it the best every year.

I'd like to have this be my personal invitation to Every Member of our Club to participate in the upcoming Auction in May of 2012. We will be asking for every member to assist by procuring a minimum of one auction item for this event. I need members to also step up and help me with the planning. Consider this as a sign up sheet right now. I have room for 20 – 40 members for this committee. Simply email me or call and let me know that this club means a lot to you and you would be willing to invest in it.

Mike Masters: VP
541-261-2243 or mmasters2243@charter.net
Our future is in your hands

Fly Tying Classes

The RFF will again be offering fly tying classes starting Monday, January 9th and running for 6 weeks. We have openings for 6 people in the beginners group, 6 for the intermediate class, and 3 spots for the advanced. Contact Dan Kellogg at 541-210-0949 or by e-mail at flyguy@eznorthwest.com to reserve your seat. How about getting some young people started. Ask a grandchild, a neighbor, or friend if they are interested.

ROGUE FLYFISHERS BOARD POSITIONS ARE OPEN!

We have three positions on the Board that need to be filled, and two "elected" positions as well. I have offered my services for one more year as President—if you will have me. We will also need to fill the position of Secretary, which will be vacated at year end.

If you would like to serve on the board, we meet on the first Wednesday of every month at the Lion's club on Holly Street in Medford at 6 PM. Board meetings last from one to two hours. The secretary's duties are to take the "minutes" of the meeting and record them for approval the following month.

If you would like to help the club and be a part of the "decision making process" please contact Kellie at kclmbr@msn.com or 541-776-4094 and let her know.

Positions must be filled by December 31st.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS IN SERVING US FOR THE LAST FEW YEARS:

Lee Wedberg
Bill Childress

Dick Chambers

Our club has benefitted greatly from their efforts and they will be missed!

Kellie Christensen

Member of the Year

It is time once again to nominate someone that you think has contributed a lot of time and effort to further the ideals of our club. Please take time to fill out the form on page 7 of this newsletter. The form is also available on our web site.

It will let the club officers know of someone that you think would be a good candidate for the Club Member of the Year.

Kelly Slough Tree Planting

Join RVCOG, the RBCC & Seven Basins Watershed Council to help improve riparian habitat in Upper Kelly Slough on Saturday, December 10th from 9am to 12:30pm. Last month, over 30 volunteers participated in our first planting of the season and everyone had a lot of fun! Come out and be a part of this important effort to restore areas impacted by the removal of Gold Ray Dam.

When: Saturday, December 10th, 9am-12:30pm

Where: Upper Kelly Slough

What: Riparian Planting

Please sign up by calling 541-261-7796. It is important to sign up ahead of time so that we can make sure you have directions for parking for the day & we can plan food for lunch.

Be sure to dress for the weather— wear long pants, long sleeved shirts, and boots that you don't mind getting a little muddy. We encourage you to wear a hat and sunscreen, and bring work gloves if you have them.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided, as well as extra gloves.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

ADC DENTAL AND DENTURE CLINIC 541-772-8280

Gary Lewellyn, DMD (Over 45 years of experience)

720 Bennett Avenue, Medford (Just East of Tinseltown Theaters)

**“Our purpose is to save your natural teeth for your lifetime”**

We provide a complete range of affordable dental services for all ages. We also offer simple, inexpensive non-surgical implants that stabilize troublesome dentures. These are immediately functional with no painful healing time.

“This past year, Gary replaced 4 bad fillings, fixed an ill fitting crown (done by a local dentist) and cleaned my teeth. The care was exceptional and I was impressed with his knowledge, ability, compassion and common sense approach to good dental care. I also found the pricing very affordable. Gary is the only dentist I will continue to see! - Kellie C.

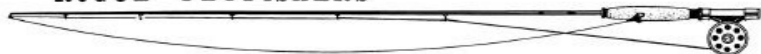
December fishing report

Compared with summer and early fall 2011, late fall is shaping up okay. Steelhead are in the river, and on my last few outings they have been quite fond of Green Rock Worm nymphs. There is a lot of luck connected with catching steelhead, one major element of which is finding them. One day a hole will be quite good, and then for the next month it might produce nothing at all. I think that is explained in part by the habit of the fish to move in groups. This was first explained to me years ago by a gentleman who sat at the counting station at Gold Ray Dam’s fish ladder. Before they started counting fish electronically, that man sat at a viewing window counting the salmon and steelhead as they moved up the river. He commented that when you see a steelhead coming through you could pretty well count on several more coming along with him. Since that time I have noticed that if you catch a steelhead, you are likely to hook another in the same general area, sometimes behind that same rock. But when you return to that spot a few days later the hole is dead.

Also hatches can be fun if you, as they say, luck out. Rainbows and Cutthroats can provide excellent entertainment for an hour or more. If the fish are breaking the surface and caddis or BWO’s are on the water, go ahead and tie on an Elk Hair Caddis but be sure to add a soft hackle emerger on a dropper. In that situation today I landed several Rainbows and Cutthroats 12 to 14 inches, all of which took the submerged soft hackle making a great splash while doing so. And that, as they say, is entertainment!

And so action is picking up on the river. If you can tolerate the cold and wet associated with this season, it can be well worth the effort to make a few casts into likely looking water. Maybe you will get lucky!

DATE	CONTACTS	VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY	PARTICIPANTS
Nov. 19, 2011	John Ward, Conservation Chairman & Board Member, 541-482-2859, e_john_ward@msn	Seven RFF members volunteered to help plant riparian vegetation along Bear Creek at the Rogue River confluence. This organized Conservation activity assisted Seven Basins Watershed Council and other organizations by planting container grown Ponderosa Pine trees, cottonwood and other deciduous trees, and a wide variety of shrubs plus several hundred freshly cut local willow stakes. By spring these plants will be well rooted for improved bank stability, and in time, the added shade will also help maintain	Bill Ackermann, John Bjorkholm, Dick Chambers, Mick Cuffe, Edmund Daniel, Dan Frank, and John Ward.
Various dates in November 2011	John Ward, Conservation Chairman & Board Member, 541-482-2859, e_john_ward@msn .com	<i>Miscellaneous Activities performed by Conservation Chair:</i> 1)Toured completed Applegate River Projects on Rogue River National Forest lands recommended by their citizen Resource Advisory Committee. Group visited sites with improved wade fisherman access, a constructed channel on Palmer Creek to maintain late season flow, campground improvement on the Upper Applegate River, toilet facilities at Applegate Dam, and other locations. 2)Attended U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Workshop on draft Revised Recovery Plan for Lost River and Shortnose Sucker in the upper Klamath Basin. Data was gathered specific concerns and comments but the obvious close coordination by Federal, Oregon, and California agencies was very encouraging, especially in relation to integration with removal of Klamath River dams. 3)Participated in multiagency planning meeting to consider ways to improve fish passage on Jackson Creek, prioritization of barriers, and focus on USFS barrier where water is diverted for irrigation of the J. Herbert Stone Forest Nursery. 4)Attended two Shady Cove City Council meetings or study sessions, and one Shady Cove Planning Commission Workshop on Riparian Ordinance development.	John Ward



JACKSON/JOSEPHINE COUNTIES, OREGON
P.O. BOX 4637
MEDFORD, OR 97501

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Medford, OR
Permit 147

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
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.shasttrout.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 _____ - _____

Address _____ - _____

Best Contact Telephone Numbers: Area Code _____ **Number** _____ - _____

(2nd best) **Number** _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____

If you do not want your e-mail address in the membership directory, check here **Member Federation of Fly Fishers?** Yes __ No __
Are you **retired?** Yes __ No __ Are you interested in, or want help in (check all as appropriate): **Casting** __ **Fly tying** __ **Fishing**
Techniques __ **Water Knowledge** __ **Conservation Activities** __ **Fishing Partner** __ **Organizing Social Activity and Group**
Outings __? **Do you have a drift boat?** Yes __ No __ **lake boat?** Yes __ No __ other interests?

Prefer receiving paperless **Newsletter electronically** __ (quickest receipt and saves the club money for other activities and uses, or by
US Mail __? Amount enclosed _____. Mail completed form and payment to:

Comments on Proposes Wastewater Permit and Thermal Credit Trading Program for City of Medford Regional Water Reclamation Facility

November 23, 2011
Carrie Everett, Permit Coordinator
DEQ-Salem Office
Jon Gasik, Senior Engineer
DEQ-Medford Office

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the discharge regulations for the Medford Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). I am a catch and release fly fisherman that regularly fishes past the WWTP discharge and I am very concerned for the spawning Salmon in that area and the smolts traveling downstream through the area. Like the adult Salmon, I feel the pull and return to the river each fall. They return to spawn, I return to experience the river and fish for Steelhead that hang out below the spawning Salmon trying to catch loose spawn. I can't tell you how thrilling it is each year after the long wait to see the first returning fall salmon digging in the gravel beds. Borrowing words from a more poignant angler "...I release my fish but they don't release me."

REDUCED THERMAL LOAD REQUIREMENTS It is my understanding that for several years the treatment plant was operating under a thermal discharge requirement that would result in either chilling the discharge or removing the discharge from the river. Problems I have long observed would some day be solved with the removal of the discharge. I have been patiently waiting for this to happen. Now, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has, it appears, reduced the thermal load requirements so that the discharge will only be out of compliance a few days in the fall. And that can be mitigated by shading the river and tributaries to reduce the temperature. So the first question I have for the DEQ is, what is this new science? How much more will the WWTP be able to thermally load the sensitive receiving water? How was this determined? Be as technical as you like, I can retain professional help to understanding your reply.

SPAWNING SALMON DOWNSTREAM AND PROPOSED THERMAL LOAD MITIGATION Not very far down stream of the discharge is a large wild Salmon spawning area us anglers refer to as High Banks. I estimate there are 80 to 120 spawning pair there depending on the number of returning Salmon in a given year. Just down from there is "The Willows" another equally large spawning area, then the river makes a strong left turn and the third spawning ground is "Power Lines". Several more large and small spawning area are found before the river courses through what use to be the Gold Ray Reservoir. With the recent removal of the dam, several more gravel beds in shallow water were exposed and are now being used by wild Salmon. The increased temperatures would negatively impact the young fish (fry) from all these spawning areas. The thermal problem unnaturally speeds up the maturation of the eggs in the gravel so that the fry hatch out early, before the natural food source is available. The net result is a reduced survival rate of the young fish. They are directly impacted by a lack of food. The proposed mitigation is to plant trees and improve shading in the basin to lower the ambient temperature. Credit will be given for improving shading downstream a substantial distance from the discharge. What about the Salmon below the discharge and upstream of the new shade? They need temperature relief. Are they to be sacrificed so the WWTP can continue the thermal discharge? This is not protecting the beneficial uses of the river and is unacceptable.

TEMPERATURE AND NUTRIENT RELATIONSHIP There is no recognition of this important relationship as it relates to the health of the river. Above the WWTP discharge the gravel is clean and healthy. Aquatic insects abound. Downstream from the discharge for some distance all gravel is covered by a thick mat of algae(Anglers call this rock snot.). This algae (Snot) is so thick the aquatic population is greatly reduced or absent. A month ago I was fishing that section with a retired professional aquatic entomologist who always brings his nets and trays where ever he fishes. He was astonished by the algae growth and the lack of bugs. These bugs are necessary for a healthy river including fish populations. Wild Steelhead spend two years in the river before they go to salt and hatchery fish need to eat during their downstream journey. The food supply is greatly compromised for a substantial distance downstream of the discharge. In addition to the algae mats on the rocks, substantial floating mats of algae, that are waist deep, grow in the few downstream still water sections of the river through the summer. A very substantial amount of algae can be found in the left bank eddy at the Willows. I have never witnessed this algae growth upstream of the WWTP. Algae produces oxygen in the day time but it absorbs oxygen at night and when it dies. This could be a major dissolved oxygen problem directly traceable to the thermal and nutrient load of the WWTP. The WWTP should be required to reduce the temperature AND the nutrient load in the discharge.

VISIBLE DISCHARGE AND ODOR While this is an esthetic issue it never the less needs to be corrected. There is always a visible discharge in the form of foam. Some days it dissipates within 100 yards, other times it goes way down the river and eventually works it way all the way across. The only ones to see it are the anglers that float by in boats but that is still unacceptable and should be corrected. I have noted two odors. One is an earthy smell that is short lived in the fall during the dried sludge harvest. I personally do not find this objectionable but the effluent itself smells of chemicals at times, sometimes worst than others, and one wonders if the chlorination/de chlorination facility is operating correctly. The smell is very foreign on the Rogue a world renown North West Salmon/Steelhead river.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the water quality management of the Rogue River. At the November 16 hearing, it was mentioned that environmental groups are challenging the thermal standards. Would you please pass along to me the names of these organizations.

John MacDiarmid
90 Dean Drive
Central Point, OR 97502
jmacd@jeffnet.org
541-664-8391