

# Rogue Flyfishers

DECEMBER 2023

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](http://www.rogueflyfishers.org)**

## Board of Directors

			term
President	David Haight	541-855-9043	2024
V. President	Rex Thompson	907-723-7830	2023
Treasurer	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976	2024
Secretary	John Pogue	541-793-0722	2024
Board Member	Susan Labiste	541-531-0307	2024
Board Member	Jerry Haynes	541-494-1433	2023
Board Member	Bill Burns	541-680-7402	2024
Board Member	Dave McCants	541-973-3508	2023
Board Member	Dale Day	541-841-8038	2024
Board Member	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331	2023
Board Member	Tammy Dedrick	541-941-3285	2023

## Committee Heads

Auction Chair	Tammy Dedrick	541-941-3285
Blog Coordinator	Steve Day	661-742-5835
Casting Chair	John MacDiarmid	541-664-8391
Conservation	Dale Day	541-841-8038
Fly Tying Chair	Dave Roberts	541-601-5658
Membership	Don Dabney	541-855-9394
Newsletter Editor	Steve Ostrander	541-944-5482
Outings	Jerry Haynes	541-494-1433
Program Coordinator	Steve Day	661-742-5835
Raffle Chairman	Kirk Kowalke	541-531-0861
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water	Paul Seymour	719-337-4459
Webmaster	Steve Ostrander	541-944-5482

**Mark Hereford**



I am originally from Lake Tahoe, Nevada and have always been fond of the outdoors and the adventures that naturally come along with it. After completing my B.S. in Conservation Biology at the University of Nevada, Reno I began my career in Fisheries Biology working for the U.S. Geological Survey on research projects throughout the Great Basin, while also completing M.S. in Biology. I moved to Oregon in 2014 and continued working for the U.S. Geological Survey researching suckers and Redband Trout in Upper Klamath Lake. Since 2016 I have worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in Klamath Falls as the Klamath Fisheries Reintroduction Biologist. The focus of my job is to develop the implementation plan to reintroduce and monitor the repopulation of anadromous fishes into Oregon following the removal of the Klamath hydroelectric dams, as well as lead pre-dam removal studies. I pride myself in being able to work with a diverse group of stakeholders to achieve a common goal on large fish restoration projects. I enjoy backpacking, fishing, hunting, skiing, mountain biking, and really anything outdoors



**In partnership with**  
**Temple Fork Outfitters**

## President's Message from David Haight

December is one of the slowest months for fly anglers in the Rogue Valley. Access to most of our favorite trout lakes is blocked by snow and ice, bass and other warmwater fish are lethargic and very difficult to catch, and fishing for summer steelhead is winding down as the fish get ready to spawn. Many fly fishers use this time of year to maintain equipment and tie flies.

For those that do want to get out on the water, there are opportunities. Several mid-elevation lakes offer good trout fishing this time of year: Those that are low enough to remain free from ice and heavy snow, yet stay cool enough during the summer to allow trout to survive. Lost Creek Reservoir, Applegate Reservoir, and Willow Lake are some of the best examples.

The paved Takelma Ramp at Lost Creek Reservoir remains useable at all but unusually low water levels. Lost Creek Reservoir has a good population of rainbow trout, with a lot of quality-sized trout. Landlocked chinook are also present, but generally require fishing deeper than necessary for the rainbows. The lake has a small population of brown trout, some of which reach impressive sizes. During the fall, the brown trout and some rainbow concentrate where the Rogue River flows into the reservoir. For those willing to make the long trip up Cascade Gorge to the inlet, fishing streamers can produce some nice fish. There is a trail that follows the north side of the reservoir and river that could be used to access the inlet on foot, but the last time I hike it, it was practically impassible due to downed trees and washouts. The best locations for fishing from the shore are the area around the Takelma Boat Ramp and the flats accessible from Medco Road and Stewart Park.

Like Lost Creek, Applegate Reservoir offers good fishing for rainbow trout and landlocked chinook during the winter. The only usable ramp is in French Gulch, which is just east of the dam. The ramp can be muddy and depending on the water level, it may be challenging to launch larger boats. The best areas to fish from the bank include French Gulch, the Squaw Creek Arm, and the head of the reservoir.

Willow Lake has rainbow trout that usually provide good fishing during the winter. The lake has a paved ramp, but it is not always available during the winter. Willow Lake offers plenty of bank access, and is a good place to use float tubes and other small craft that can be carried to the water. Like the other lakes mentioned here, when it is foggy in the valley, it is usually sunny at Willow Lake.

Local rivers also offer good opportunities for fly fishers during the month of December. The Rogue, Applegate, and Illinois Rivers all have rainbow and cutthroat trout. These fish can often be tempted with small nymph patterns. Hatches of midges, Blue-winged Olives, and other insects can provide good top-water action. The best bank access and fishing can be found on the Rogue River from Casey Park upstream through the Holy Water. The Rogue also offers several good sections to float for those with a proper boat and skills. All wild trout in these rivers must be released.



For those willing to travel a bit further, winter steelhead enter most of the coastal streams in fishable numbers in December. The streams open to winter steelhead fishing along the Southern Oregon Coast range from small creeks to large river, and offer a variety of opportunities to both bank and boat anglers. Remember that if you are going to fish for steelhead (even catch and release) in the Southwest Zone from December 1 through April 30, you need to get a Rogue-South Coast Steelhead Validation in addition to your angling license and tag.



## 2024 RFF Outing Schedule

Below is the tentative 2024 RFF Outing Schedule. We have several open months with no one to lead outings yet. We are in need of volunteers to lead outings in March, September, and November. We will update the schedule as outings are added and dates confirmed.

January  
Holy Water Chili Feed 01/01  
Coastal Steelhead 01/20-21

February  
Upper Rogue

March  
Open

April  
Owyhee River 04/28-05/02

May  
Lemolo Lake 05/17-05/19

June  
Diamond Lake

July  
Umpqua Smallmouth

August  
Sky Lakes

September  
Open

October  
Four Mile Lake

November  
Open

## Auction Status

Our next fundraising auction is currently scheduled for May 18, 2024. Steve Haskell has agreed to act as the Solicitation Committee Manager and Bruce Barrow will handle Publicity. We still need somebody who would be willing to organize the donations including items that we already have. Even with all this progress however, there are complications that may result us having to reschedule the auction.

First, we were unable to secure the services of Rogue Oregon Auctioneers on May 18<sup>th</sup> as they already had another auction scheduled for that date. While we could procure a different auctioneer, Rogue Oregon Auctioneers not only provides the auctioneer, but also handles the registration table, check-out including credit card transactions, and other tasks during the auction. So far, we have not been able to find a company who could provide all those services so consideration is being given to eliminating the live auction portion. However, that also means we would have to handle all the other duties with club members.

Second, SOFF normally has their fundraising auction in November, but has decided to hold an on-line auction in 2024 which will be held from 2/16 through 2/23. As we would be out soliciting donations shortly after or even at the same time, that could negatively affect the efforts of both clubs.

Given these and a few other reasons, at the next meeting, the Board of Directors will be deciding whether to postpone the auction until a later date or to try to continue with the May 18<sup>th</sup> date. If we continue with the current date, there will be assign-up sheet to volunteer for the Solicitation Committee at the regular December club meeting.

## Upcoming Schedule

Club Meeting 12/20, 01/17/24  
Board Meeting 12/6, 01/03/24  
SOFF meeting 12/12, 01/09/24  
Outings:  
New Year chili feed 01/01/24

**Check the Club Calendar for more information**

## **In memory of Jack Schlotter, 1936 - 2023**

A longtime member of the Rogue Flyfishers, an avid fisherman, fly tier, and advocate for fish, Jack Schlotter passed on recently here in Medford. Jack was on the Rogue River all the time fishing for trout and steelhead. He fished the Holy Water from the days of its creation and he was a member of the Rogue Flyfishers' Holy Water Committee for many years. He fished across the Northwest and took yearly trips to eastern Oregon, Idaho and Montana. He made numerous trips to New Zealand, a place he dearly loved.

Jack was an exceptional fly tier and had patented patterns with Umpqua and LLBean. He taught flytying classes for many years in the Rogue Valley at McKensie Outfitters and the Ashland Fly Shop. Before he retired, Jack was a forest ranger with the US Forest Service and was the lead man in Butte Falls for many years.

Jack was quiet, thoughtful and had a great sense of humor. He will be deeply missed by those members who had the privilege to take his classes, fish with him, or just share his friendship

## **Rogue Flyfishers Thank Ryan Battleson for His Service**

At our November 2023 meeting, the Rogue Flyfishers presented Ryan Battleson an award and a gift of a custom fly box in recognition of his service to the fisheries resources in the Rogue Basin. Ryan spent the last eight years working for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife as the Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) Biologist for the Rogue Watershed District. In this role, he worked on numerous projects to improve habitat for salmon, steelhead, and trout; improve fish passage and remove barriers to fish migration; and protect natural resources. Ryan also worked extensively with schools and other organizations to educate children and adults about our native fish populations and increase their appreciation for natural resources. Ryan frequently enlisted volunteers from the Rogue Flyfishers for many of these projects. Ryan has taken another job within the Rogue District, and we wish him the best in his new endeavor.



## **2024 Membership Renewal**

The time to pay your 2024 RFF membership dues is approaching. Renewals are due by January 1. You will be able to pay your dues, by cash or check, at the November and December meetings. If any of your information (phone number, address, email) has changed, please complete the form at the back of this newsletter and submit that with you payment. You can also submit the form and payment to the address indicated on the form. Prices remain the same: \$35.00 for an individual, \$45.00 for a family, or \$5.00 for an individual youth under 18.

## **Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting**

The next club meeting is Wednesday December 20th at Centennial Golf Club  
1900 N. Phoenix Rd. Medford, 97504

Wet fly 5:30 – 6:30pm  
Dinner and meeting at 7:15pm  
Raffle to follow Program

**BUFFET DINNER is \$25per person**

Roast Turkey, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Cranberry Sauce, Roasted Vegetables,  
Rolls, Dessert

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

RSVP's need to be in by Friday ( December 15th ) preceding the meeting.

Please email your RSVP to [icrsrd303@gmail.com](mailto:icrsrd303@gmail.com)

(give your name and how many for dinner)

For those who cannot do email call (661)742-5835 afternoons only.

Pay when you arrive. We take cash or checks only.

Special dietary requests: email Steve Day at [icrsrd303@gmail.com](mailto:icrsrd303@gmail.com) or  
call (661)742-5835 by Tuesday preceding the meeting

### **PROGRAM:**

#### **Mark Hereford**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission approved the removal of the four lower Klamath hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River. The removal of these dams will allow access to hundreds of miles of habitat for anadromous fishes that have been blocked for over 100 years. The schedule for dam removal is set to begin in 2023 with full passage available in late 2024. In preparation for dam removal and the subsequent repopulation of anadromous fishes into Oregon, ODFW and partners have developed a strategy for monitoring Chinook Salmon, Coho, Steelhead, and Pacific Lamprey. Along with developing a monitoring strategy, ODFW and partners have conducted and continue to develop multiple pre-dam removal studies that investigate the basin-wide genetics of *O. mykiss* as well as the migratory behaviors and survival of juvenile Chinook Salmon in the upper basin. This presentation will summarize the habitat and fisheries of the Klamath River Basin, dam removal, the strategy for monitoring repopulation, genetic population structure of Steelhead and resident Redband and Rainbow Trout, and summarize initial results associated with a multi-year mark-detection study of released juvenile Chinook Salmon in the upper basin.

Mr. Nickolaus Shanks  
1594 SE Maple Loop  
Gresham, OR 97080

December 11, 2021

RE: Santa's Helper (Mandee)

Hello Nick,

You may not remember me (Santa), but many years ago I had to make a stop at PF Chang's near Portland. You kindly bought me dinner (weary traveler) and I found out you were into my hobby (flyfishing/flytying) so I sent you some flies to thank you for a fine dinner and great conversation.

Well, my Elf helper (Mandee) got your message regarding loss of those flies due to a car break in. Mandee, with great effort I understand, tracked me down and relayed the story of your loss and how you wished the car had been taken instead of those flies. She also stated that you might need a cheering up.

Therefore, because you have been good this year and are in need of some flies, I agreed to send you the enclosed box of my specially tied flies.

I do hope this box cheers you up, and you get out to fish soon as being on the water helps to clear your mind.

The flies in the box are as follows (with hooks down and eyes up, each row)

Row One

Mr. Wiggles (rubber San Juan Worm),  
McBear's Chorus Girl (Red Choronomid),  
McBear's Giant Stonefly,

Row Two

McBear's Quigley Cripple (BWO),

Row Three

McBear's Stonefly Nymphs,

Row Four

McBear's Catapillar Comet (for Steelhead/Salmon)  
Jim Pray's Thor

Row Five

McBear's Blue Siren,  
McBear's Black Siren,  
Johnathan Farmers Graboid Leech,  
McBear's Black Syn Carey (trout spey for lakes or rivers),  
McBear's Stuck in the Shuck March Brown



These flies should help get you kickstarted again in your fishing endeavors.

Call my Elf Helper (Mandee) and let her know you received these flies. Her efforts were from the heart and I am impressed with her ability to find Santa and see this through.

Kindest regards to you and your family this Christmas,

Chris Kringle

Done through,

Mr. David (aka Bear) P. McCants  
1884 Sonya Circle  
Medford, Oregon 97504  
Phone: 541-973-3508  
Email: Davetyer177@gmail.com

## New Year's Day Chili Feed

In keeping with tradition, the Rogue Flyfishers and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers will gather at the Holy Water on New Year's Day for our annual chili feed. The event will take place at the picnic shelter in River's Edge Park on the south bank of the Holy Water. We should have a fire going by 10 AM and will eat around noon. We need people to bring chili, and will again have a contest where participants will select their favorite pot of chili. The competition has become intense in recent years, with entries ranging from traditional to rather eccentric. Those not bringing chili can help out by bringing cornbread, salads, desserts or other items to share. The clubs will provide coffee and tableware.

The Holy Water can offer good trout fishing during the winter, and there will be opportunities to fish both before and after we eat. Swinging or drifting small marabou leeches, woolly buggers, micro intruders, or nymphs along the bottom can be productive. If conditions are favorable, we could have a blue-winged olive or midge hatch. If you are going to fish, remember to get your 2023 fishing license.

We always have a great time no matter the weather, so make up a pot of your favorite chili, break out your trout rod, and come help us celebrate the new year and the joy of fly fishing!

### ***Wanted to buy***

One of our members is wanting to purchase a used 10 wt saltwater rod in good condition.

You can contact John at 530 340-2391 if you have one available.

## **FOR SALE**

### **CADDIS PREMIER Plus II FLOAT TUBE**

High-Viz Yellow

Large capacity front pockets for flies w/ fly patches etc.

Casting apron with measurement tape

Back rest with zippered pocket

Power Fin

Can float up to 400 lbs. safely

**\$175.00 obo**

Contact:

Norm Rossignol  
normrossignol@yahoo.com

541 301-2728

Cash only

### **Pontoon Boat**

108" Long, 56" wide assembled

Fore & Aft storage areas

Aluminum oars w/ locks

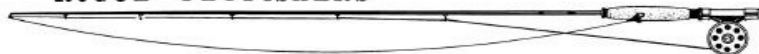
Full Frame with oar locks & adjustable stirrups

Folding / cushioned seat

Easily handle in moving waters

**\$325.00**

## ROGUE FLYFISHERS



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

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## Support Your Local Fly Fishing Resources

The Ashland Fly Shop	399 E. Main Street at Third, Ashland	541-488-6454
The Fishin' Hole	21873 Hwy 62, Shady Cove	541-878-4000
Rogue Fly Shop	941 SE 6th St, Grants Pass	541-476-0552
Rogue Valley Anglers	218 E. Main St., Medford	541-973-2988
Sportsman's Warehouse	1710 Delta Waters Road Medford	541-732-3700

Jim Ulm, Rogue River Steelhead and Trout Guide, (541) 973-6250 [jimulm9@msn.com](mailto:jimulm9@msn.com)

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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.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_. If a family membership,

**List Family Member's Names** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip code** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 \_\_\_

Prefer using the **Online Newsletter** \_\_\_ or by **US Mail** \_\_\_?

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_. Mail completed form and payment to:

**Rogue Fly Fishers, PO Box 4637, Medford, Oregon 97501**