



April 2026

Rogue Flyfishers

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

Board of Directors

			Term
President	John Pogue	541-793-0722	2026
Vice President	Dave Haight	541-855-9043	2027
Treasurer	Tim Bolling	541-500-1976	2026
Secretary	Open		
Board	Bill Burns	541-680-7402	2027
Board	Rick Graw	503-522-9477	2027
Board	Robbi DeBois	760-985-8630	2026
Board	Jim Ulm	541-973-6250	2027
Board	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331	2027
Board	Mike LeTorneau	541-622-5733	2027
Board	Bob Eury	707-498-5368	2027

Upcoming Outings / Events

Board Meeting	4/1/26, 5/6/26
Auction Meeting	4/6/26
SOFT Meeting	4/14/26, 5/12/26
Club Meeting	4/15/26 with SOFF

Events

SOFF-RFF Fly Tyers Night	4/15/26
Fly Fishing Family Day	4/19/26
Club Auction	5/9/26
Club Picnic	6/13/26

Outings

North Umpqua River	4/11, 12
Copeland Pond with SOFF	4/25/26
Diamond Lake	6/23/26-6/28/26

Committee Heads

Auction Chair	Robbi Debois	760-985-8630
Blog Coordinator	Steve Day	641-742-5835
Casting Chair	John MacDiarmid	541-664-8391
Conservation	Rick Graw	503-522-9477
Fly Tying Chair	Dave Roberts	541-601-5658
Membership	Jim Ulm	541-973-6250
Newsletter Editor	Bob Eury	707-498-5368
Program Coordinator	Mark Dewey	541-292-3331
Raffle Chairman	OPEN	
Roadside Cleanup Holy Water	Rick Graw	503-522-9477
Webmaster	Bob Eury	707-498-5368

President's Message April 2026

Spring has sprung, the rivers are full of steelhead, and the lakes are mostly ice free, already. I had the opportunity recently to fish with some friends at Chickahominy reservoir in central Oregon, and the North Umpqua for a few days. We caught fish at Chickahominy and we all hooked steelhead on the North Umpqua but didn't land them.

Even though steelhead were not landed it was a great time. There's something special about the relationships we build through fly fishing. I've been fishing with my friends Bob, and Ed for 30 years now. Bob owned a fly shop in the Bay Area and Ed and I were both fly shop groupies who went to Bob's shop any chance we could to talk about our recent fly fishing experiences, or our upcoming trips. Even though we all went in separate directions we all ended up in Oregon. Our state has some of the best fly fishing experiences from our rivers to our lakes.

We have some opportunities coming up to share our experiences with upcoming fly fishers. The first is a fly tying program at the middle school in Grants Pass. This will be followed by an outing to Lake Selmac to get these kids on the water. The next is a combined club family fishing day at lake Selmac put on by Southern Oregon Women Outdoors and the Rogue Flyfishers. Unfortunately as I write this I'm waiting on a new phone since mine went belly up a few days ago and all of my calendar info is in my phone. So be on the lookout for more announcements and dates about these opportunities. I would like to personally thank Mark Teeters for getting up at the last two dinner meetings and expressing the need to get younger people involved in fly fishing. This is important for the longevity of the sport that we all love.

I hope to see you all at the fly tying night in the town of Rogue River this month, and the North Umpqua outing. Take care and go catch some fish.

John Pogue

Program

The next "program" will be provided by all of the excellent tyers at the RFF-SOFF group meeting in Rogue River.

Rogue Flyfisher's Meeting

APRIL CLUB MEETING with SOUTHERN OREGON FLY FISHERS

Come join us on Wednesday, April 15th as we watch the artistry of some of the finest fly tyers in Southern Oregon. The meeting will be held at the Rogue River Community Center, 132 Broadway Street in Rogue River. The meeting begins at 5:00 with pizza and sodas served at 6:30 for those that wish to dine. There is a \$15 charge for dinner, payable by check or cash at the door.

If you are planning on attending and would like to eat, please RSVP to Steve Day by Tuesday, April 14th by calling (661) 742-5835 or email: icrsrd303@gmail.com.

Board Minutes March 4, 2026

Meeting came to order at 5:02

Officers in attendance:

Pres. John Pogue, VP: David Haight, Treasurer: Tim Bolling, Secretary: Open

Board members: Bill Burns, Mark Dewey, Jim Ulm, Rick Graw, Robbi DeBois, Bob Eury and Mike LeTourneau were all present. There were no guests

Additions to Agenda / Club Announcements / Club Correspondence

A motion was made to approve the February BOD minutes. Motion seconded and approved by the board members attending.

Treasurer's Report: The Post Office has cost RFF \$30 because of a lost check sent to Mini Storage. Mini Storage called and threatened a late fee if payment was not received on time so Tim delivered payment. This is the second time this has happened. Treasurer has filed an Oregon CT 25 report. Treasurer's report was approved.

Program's Report: The dinner meeting was moved up exactly one week, from the third Wednesday to the second Wednesday in March, to accommodate the guest speaker.

Auction Report: Member Steve Haskell has donated two nice rods, a Winston and a Sage, as well as an

inflatable pontoon boat to the auction. Auction chair has been soliciting corporate donations including from the Ko-Kwel Casino, Harry and David, Father & Son Jewelry, Ulta, and Bath and Body Works. Father and Son has committed to a product donation.

Radio advertising for the auction will give us a sixty-second ad for the price of a thirty-second ad saving RFF \$2000. Robbi and the radio station will work out the script, and the ads will be heavily run on multiple radio stations for two full weeks before the auction. Ad will also be on Facebook.

There are already eight or nine hosted trips for the auction and local guides John Hazelet and Keith Liddy will also be asked to donate a trip. Star Auto Body will donate a basket.

Conservation Report: Rick advises the annual salmon carcass toss to put spawned salmon into creeks to decompose is scheduled on March 19th. The Mayfly Project is looking for members wanting to mentor young fly fishers. The Applegate Watershed Council is planning a tree planting but date is so far undetermined. It is too early in the year for the club to set date for the roadside cleanup.

Membership: Jim Ulm reports the club needs hats, fly boxes, and patches for new members and will price local businesses and people to provide those items. There was a brief discussion about needing better resolution for the template patch. Jim reports the club has fourteen new members, 149 memberships and 181 total members. He is dropping from the directory members that are delinquent in dues paying for three years. Jim asked for total control of the data base to avoid conflicting lists of paid-up members. He also proposed a new category for club membership of \$20/year for college students. This became a motion that was seconded and approved.

Webmaster: People have been unable to pay dues online or make reservations for the auction, so board decided to extend Roxanne Theodoroff's jot form account contract another month to fix this payment processing problem. Resultingly, the membership dues rate increase changes have been postponed till the April meeting.

New Business: Rick says when the Tying and Casting date is selected, he will recruit members to mentor students at the middle school in Grants Pass.

Umpqua Outing: Fishing will be in the fly water and maybe Whistlers Bend Park. Pogue will be the contact for the trip.

Diamond Lake is free of ice and it is being fished already.

Southern Oregon Women Outdoors Club leaders Tabitha and Morgan have proposed a Family Fishing Day at Lake Selmac. Steve Day will reserve a pavilion and split the cost between the two organizations. The purpose is to attract new members so current members need to have some boat seats available and mentor potential new fly fishers.

The Tyers night is at the Rogue River Community Center on Wednesday the 15th of April. This is a change from the 16th printed in the Newsletter because the room wasn't available.

The next board meeting will be held April 1, 2026. Meeting adjourned at 6:04PM

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Burns

Auction Update

Well, the auction is about 6 weeks away and things are coming together. Our next and final auction meeting is scheduled for April 6 at 6pm at the Lion's Sight and Hearing Center, 228 N. Holly St., Medford.

Remember, parking and entrance is from the rear of the building. If you signed up to help with the auction in any way, I highly suggest you attend this meeting. We will be going over all the logistics of the event from organizing the auction items through set up all the way through to clean up after the event. Also, if you have any items for the auction, please bring them to the meeting.

Our radio and Facebook advertising begins soon. The targeted Facebook ads will begin around April 9 and run for 4 weeks. The radio ads begin on April 25th and run through May 8th. You can hear them on Q100.3 (country) and KMED 105.9 (talk radio). The radio station gave us a 60 second ad for the 30 second price. That's a huge discount. There will be 2 different ads on the radio. One will explain which non-profit organizations will benefit from the auction. The other will thank our corporate sponsors who wrote a check to help pay the costs of presenting the event. This was the only way we could fit everything we needed to say in 60 seconds.

That leads into the preregistration issue. So far, we have less than 20 registered attendees. In a per-

fect world, the radio and Facebook advertising will be so successful that we sell out. If you wait until the last minute to register, it's possible you'll find yourself outside looking in. Of course, we also need to have a headcount for Back Porch Bar and Grill for the food. Please help reduce my stress. Go to our website and register as soon as possible.

I think we all look forward to a fun and successful event.

Robbi DeBois, Auction Committee Chairman

Club BBQ

The joint club BBQ, is scheduled for Saturday, June 13th at Tom Pearce Park, along the River in Grants Pass. We have the same Pavilion reserved as the last couple of years. Jeffro's BBQ is catering the meal and the price will be 25 bucks. I think we'll likely eat around 4:00. More details as we get closer.

North Umpqua Outing

On April 11th and 12th, I will be leading an outing for the Rogue Flyfishers to the North Umpqua River, and members of the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers are invited to attend as well. The North Umpqua is famous among fly fishers for its summer steelhead fishery, but it is a great destination for winter steelhead too. It is a beautiful river, and its steelhead tend to be larger and more challenging than those on the Rogue.

We will meet at Swiftwater Park (just a little below Rock Creek and the lower boundary of the fly water) at 9:00 AM on the 11th. After a brief discussion about the river and how to fish it, we will tour access points and fishing holes in the lower half of the fly water. We will then spread out along the river to fish. At that time, I will be happy to help anyone looking for additional instruction about fishing the North Umpqua or about steelhead fishing in general. Also I'd like to get everyone together for dinner on Saturday night.

During the winter season, Spey rods can be an asset on the North Umpqua, but single-handed rods of about 8-weight will also work. Sink-tip lines or shooting heads will help you get your flies down to the fish. A wide variety of flies will work--from the traditional steelhead patterns to large intruder-style flies. The North Umpqua can be difficult to wade, so bring your waders, wading boots with good traction, wading belt,

and wading staff. If you have one, an inflatable PFD will add an extra level of safety. I cannot stress this enough the Umpqua has the slickest ledge rock I've ever seen. There are very few cobble beaches. Felt studded boots and a good wading staff are extremely important. Be sure to pack your rain jacket, polarized glasses, sun screen, food, water, and the rest of your normal fishing accessories.

Unfortunately, most of the Forest Service and BLM campgrounds will still be closed for the season. The Dogwood Motel (dogwoodmotel.com, 541-496-3403), located near the lower end of the fly water, is a decent place to stay at a reasonable price. The Steamboat Inn (thesteamboatinn.com, 800-840-8825) is a great place to stay, if it fits your budget, and it overlooks some of the best water on the river. The steamboat inn also has cottages up steamboat creek that sleep 4-6 people. There are also numerous lodging and dining options in Roseburg.

If you are going, please respond by April 6, 2026. I need a head count for Saturday so we can all go to dinner. Email me at jpogue2112@gmail.com

Diamond Lake Outing

The Diamond Lake Outing is scheduled for Tuesday, June 23rd thru Sunday, June 28th. Rex Thompson and Steve Day will host this event. Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Umpqua Valley Fly Fishers and Klamath Country Fly Casters have been invited as well. We are reserved in Thielsen View Campground in Loop C, and we are considering doing a "Bring Your Meat" and we'll cook it kinda potluck on Saturday afternoon / evening. Get your campsites before they're gone. Again more to follow.

Fly Fishing Family Day Megan Graham

Join Southern Oregon Women Outdoors and Rogue Fly Fishers for a family-friendly fly fishing day at Lake Selmac! Connect with like-minded anglers, learn new techniques, build your skills, and spend time outdoors with your loved ones. Whether you're a seasoned pro or just starting out, all are welcome! You need not be a member - this event is open to the public!

When: Sunday, April 19th - Starting at 9am - Lunch Served @ Noon

****Registration Required**** - Please register by Thursday, April 16th at:

SouthernOregonWomenOutdoors.square.site

Where: Lake Selmac - Trout Picnic Shelter (Hickenbottom Road, Selma, OR)

What:

All Levels of Anglers Welcome

Family Friendly

Bank & Boat Angling Opportunities

Learn About Rogue Fly Fishers & Southern Oregon Women Outdoors

Learn To Cast A Fly Rod, Choose a Fly & Tie a Knot, and more...



Hop In A Boat for a Lap on the Lake!

Cost: \$10 for adults & \$5 for children under 18 - includes a BBQ lunch!

Required:

Oregon Angling License

Josephine County Parks Day Pass (\$10 cash/check - pay at pay station)

Sunglasses (for eye protection)

Life vest required for children 12 and under

Recommended:

Hat & Sunscreen

Water

Hope to see you for a wonderful day on the lake!

Directions to Trout Picnic Shelter:

Take I-5 to Exit 55 - US-199 S/Redwood Hwy

Travel South on 199 about 22.7 miles

Turn left on Lakeshore Drive

Continue past Lake Selmac Resort

Turn right on McMullin Creek Road

Turn right on Hickenbottom Road (toward Mallard Loop)

Arrive at the Trout Picnic Shelter (on your right)

SOFF-RFF Fly Tyers Night

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Shuttle Service Providers

It was recently brought to the Board's attention the difficulty of finding a shuttle service provider for those that are arranging a solo excursion. The following list was generated out of that need. This list is only for informational purposes and is not a recommendation of any service providers.

Shuttle Providers listed alphabetically by river:

Alsea River: (541)-487-4462

Applegate River: C&J Shuttles, Darilyn, (541)-476-4982

Chetco River: (541)-268-4511

Coquille, South Fork (541) 290-7192

Deschutes River: Shandy Danford, (541)-707-5242, surfhart@hotmail.com

Elk River: (541)-655-0319

Rogue River

Upper Rogue River - Fish Hatchery down to Baker County Park.

Call Pam with Rapid Shuttle at 541-664-8200. Pam

encourages people to use the "Float River" app to schedule service. You can download the app from the App store.

Middle Rogue River - Day trips from Gold Hill to Graves Creek (and in between) and the Wild and Scenic section. BLT Shuttle Service (541)-476-2048. BLTShuttles.weebly

Middle Rogue River - C&J Shuttles, Darilyn, (541)-476-2048.

Sixes River - (541) 655-0319

Siuslaw River - (541)-268-1009

Umpqua River - Bob, (541)-637-6970, Bob lives in Glide. North Fork - Glide to Tyee (and in between)
South Fork - Canyonville to Tyee (and in between)
Main Stem - River Forks Park down to Tyee

Mayfly Project

- MISSION: The Mayfly Project is on a mission to support youth in foster care through fly fishing, helping them build confidence, find healing, and connect to their local waters." Our projects connect mentees with skilled, caring mentors to learn fly fishing and conservation in a safe environment.
- This is our 5th year of serving local foster kids in Southern Oregon: we have mentored 22 kids!
- Website: <https://themayflyproject.com/>
- Local Website (great for donations): <https://themayflyproject.com/medford-oregon-project/>
- Donations: it costs about \$780 per kid to be a part of our program.
- Donation
Link: <https://themayflyproject.com/medford-oregon-project/>
- For fly donation, we plan to fish Lake Selmac, Fish Lake, the Rogue River, and potentially Copeland's Pond. All depending on the weather, conditions, etc. Woolly buggers, still water + freshwater nymphs, top water poppers, balanced leeches, and all around bass flies.

WHAT IS A PROJECT?

PHOTOS + Details:

<https://themayflyproject.com/what-is-a-project/>

Objective of a Project

Our Projects are designed to teach fly fishing, conservation, and provide opportunities for our

mentees to experience the outdoors with a safe mentor. Every session is built around the premise that we are there to provide fun, build up the self-esteem of the foster children we mentor, and to give as many high fives as possible.

Stages of a Project

Our Project stages are characterized by parts of the life cycle of a Mayfly. We mentor with 5 sessions, where our mentees learn new fly fishing skills, get time to fish, earn participation buttons, and receive gear to continue to pursue fly fishing.

Egg Stage

Introduction to fly fishing, the fly rod, and The Mayfly Project mentors!

Nymph Stage

Introduce casting, knot tying, catch and release, and time to fish!

Emerger Stage

Setting the hook, conservation education, casting and time to fish!

Dun Stage

Reading water, mending line, roll casting, and time to fish!

Big Catch Stage

Final fun day, fishing a special location and mentees receive their fly rod and gear!

What We Do at Our Outings

Meet at multiple locations once every 2-4 weeks; outings last 1-4 hours, depending on the outing time set by the lead mentor.

Mentors teach fly fishing skills, such as casting, knot tying, fly tying, picking flies, reading the water, and catch and release fishing. We also teach on topics that we call, the characteristics of an angler, that include having patience, building self-confidence, finding grit, taking care of the environment, and seeking wisdom. The children also earn buttons for participation as they participate in our conservation initiative.

We provide a 1:1 mentor ratio, but we do everything in a group and have a 3 in a group safety policy. Providing a physically and mentally safe environment for the children we mentor is our number one priority! The second is fun!

At the final outing, every child that has participated with our projects will receive fly fishing gear to keep and a specialized curriculum to continue to learn about fly fishing!

Art of Tying Program

Our Art of Tying Program was created because just as fly fishing can be therapeutic, so can tying flies. We have worked with several foundations, artists, and professional tiers to create packaged materials so Projects can teach fly tying to their mentees. We also have specialized videos by Tim Cannisa, and artwork created in our curriculum that reflect the stages of tying. We have packaged tying materials for youth to tie woolly buggers, Girdle Bugs, or Hares Ears. Not every Project will tie, but we would like to encourage our Projects to introduce the fun of fly tying and we have supplies to support these efforts. Talk with your lead mentor to find out more details. Each child will receive instructions in their tying kits and we also have YouTube videos available for you to follow or for foster youth to follow as needed.

Conservation Initiative

We believe that our children need rivers and our rivers need children. By teaching our mentees how to protect against invasive species, clean up the ecosystems we are privileged to enjoy, and practice safe catch and release tactics, we are inviting them to join in a cycle of caring for the environment. We use our curriculum and button incentive program as tools to encourage this unique connection to the outdoors.

Sha Juniper Orton

Conservation

A Tale of Two Rivers

By Rick Graw, Conservation Chair

Have you noticed how lousy the fishing for winter steelhead has been this winter? Perhaps you noticed the paltry steelhead returns at the Cole Rivers fish hatchery on the Rogue River? According to hatchery's recorded telephone message, as of March 25th, only 270 steelhead have returned this year. That's approximately 12% of the 10-year average of 2,340, which is the worst returns in the past 10 years. (ref: Cole Rivers Hatchery Adult Collection and Inventory). No wonder why I haven't been catching any steelhead this year! Compare that with the Umpqua River, where 10,173 steelhead have crossed Winchester Dam since December 3rd. That represents about 115% of the 10-

year average. Perhaps I should have been fishing the Umpqua instead of the Rogue?

I was curious why there's such a difference in fish returns this year. So, I asked my buddy Claude (Anthropic. (2026). Claude [Large language model]. <https://claude.ai>). According to Claude, some of the key differences include: (1) geographic & hydrological difference, (2) different life history patterns, (3) drought impact timing and severity, (4) habitat quality and complexity, (5) hatchery vs wild fish dynamics, (6) temperature sensitivity, (7) ocean conditions, and (8) population resilience and diversity.

The Umpqua River has a more reliable cold-water source from Cascade snow pack, more stable summer flows, deeper pools, more riparian shading due to the forest cover, and more complex habitat. Whereas, the Rogue has a climate more like California with warmer summer temperatures. Additionally, there's more agricultural development along the Rogue and less riparian cover, making it more vulnerable to drought. That's not good if you're a steelhead smolt trying to find cold water.

Also recall that Rogue Steelhead are only one of five rivers which have a half-pounder life history, exposing them twice to fresh water conditions (both as smolts and again as returning half-pounders), leading to more potential exposure to drought effects. The 2021-2022 drought hit them during critical juvenile rearing period. This resulted in poor rearing conditions leading to low half-pounder returns, and now, low adult returns. The Umpqua steelhead, which does not have a half-pounder stage, may have had less exposure to drought conditions due to less time in freshwater conditions, more riparian shading due to the forested nature of the river, thereby having less drought impact to the fishery.

Additionally, it's also important to remember that in May 2023, there was a massive fish kill at the Cole Rivers hatchery which killed 866,694 steelhead fry. This was caused by human error and infrastructure issues, affecting the Rogue River.

Fortunately, the Rogue has major restoration efforts underway (dam removals, habitat restoration, flow improvements) that should improve resilience. I'm glad our club supports so many organizations that do this work, and for the countless volunteers who help make this work happen. Keep it up. We all want to catch steelhead!

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, Sahady Cove	541-878-4000
Rogue Fly Shop	941 SE 6th St, Grants Pass	541-476-0552
Rogue Valley Anglers	305 N. Bartlett, Medford	541-973-2988
Sportsman's Warehouse	1710 Delta Waters Road Medford	541-732-3700

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

Applying ___ or renewing ___ as (check one): **Individual** __ (\$40.00), **Family** __ (\$50.00), 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 Fly Fishers international? 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