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Officers

President-Mike Thomas
549-2473
1st Vice Pres-Bob Maki
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2nd Vice Pres-Tiffany McPheeters
702-233-1904
Past President-Bill Betts
549-0796
Secretary-Lynette Jones
549-0430
Treasurer-Mary Thompson
608-0067

Board Members

Nando Mauldin 549-2883
Dick Garrett 549-1311
Frank Thomas 549-0237
Mike Bishop 549-1549
Ken Gissel 642-3944
Mark Sands 549-2545

Meetings are held the
2nd Tuesday of each month at
Idaho Pizza, 17 W. Commercial
St., Weiser. Fly tying demo at
6 pm, program at 7 pm.
Join in the Fun!

Committees

Budget: Mary Thompson, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth:
Mark Sands, Nando Mauldin, Rick Walters, Tim Torrel

Education: Perry Kelley, Garry Swindell

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones, Sarah Gulu

Historian: Suzanne Orwig

Library: Rod Jones, Ken Gissel, Dick Garrett

Membership: Mike Bishop, Bill Betts

Newsletter: Perry & Sally Kelley, Mary Thompson, Dick Garrett, Ray Perkins

Outings: Mike Bishop, Al Sillonis

Programs: Bob Maki

Publicity: Tiffany McPheeters

News

Casters

January 2011



President's Message by Mike Thomas

Happy New Year!! I'm looking forward to a lot of great fishing in 2011 and hopefully a lot of catching as well! Remember to purchase your new fishing licenses before you take off to your favorite winter fishing spot! The way the winter is going so far, we should have plenty of water to fill our favorite {Malheur} reservoirs. I hope I can collect enough beer cans to earn enough money to purchase both my resident and out-of-state licenses! They will cost less if we buy them before the politicians convene and change the law. So buy them early.

Our January 4th board meeting will be held at the Grid Iron. If you have stuff you would like the board to know either attend the meeting or let one of the officers or board members know before the meeting. Our meeting on the 11th of January will feature two of our members Tom Dyer and Dave Henderson, who will present a program on fly fishing for steelhead and also tie the flies they use. Jim Gulu will have information about a club outing to Pyramid Lake in Nevada. Sounds like a new and different sort of club outing.

Perry will be teaching fly tying on Jan 18th at 7:00pm. This session is open to everyone -beginners to advanced-. We will meet at the Weiser Library. This is the time of the year to learn a new hobby or form another "habit", since everything except hell is frozen over!

This is a good time of the year to clean fly lines, reels, and rods, invent some new fly patterns and read some good fishing books. See you January 4 or January 11—or both!!

Ole Mike

(For those of you that missed the fun Christmas Party Perry Kelley prepared a game with descriptions of rivers, lakes, creeks and reservoirs that many of us have fished. See if you can guess these places:

- Mid 20th century Cigarette brand? (lake)
- Many people of total agreement? (lake)
- Male? (lake)
- Ski hill and Lake same name? (lake)
- Dam, town, river, same name? (river)
- President #4? (river)

We'll give you the answers at the meeting.)

Pyramid Lake Outing

The date that has been booked is the first weekend in **April—the 1st-3rd**

How it works:

Friday is a pre-fish day. Anyone that wants to show up early can fish with Rob Anderson for half a day. We also decide that day where to meet the next morning for the first day of the weekend trip.

Rob uses Friday afternoon to get ready for the next two days.

Saturday morning Rob will be at the lake at the designated location at daybreak. People can show up whenever they choose. We have breakfast on the beach around 9:00am and lunch around 1:00 pm. We normally fish all day.

Sunday is a repeat of Saturday—breakfast around 9:00am and lunch around 1:00pm. Most anglers usually call it quits after lunch so they can use the afternoon to return home. Rob will be there all day for the folks who choose to stay longer or plan to leave Monday.

Included – Hosted guide service, Breakfast and lunch both days, ladders, flies and rods and reels, if I know in advance. And any other miscellaneous items important to the trip.

The cost is \$140 per angler total for the trip. We need at least 10 anglers to do it for that price. If we only come up with 8 anglers, then it is \$160. If we have more than 10 that is no problem but the price stays the same.

We will also need fishing permits from the tribe at a cost of \$9.00 per day.

A deposit of \$70 per person will be required by the end of February.

There is space available for anyone wanting to go! We would like to have at least 10 people.

Contact: Jim Gulu 208-549-0796 e-mail: jgulu@gotsky.com



Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo

January 14th & 15th

"Casting to the Future, Tying to the Past"

Instruction in fly tying, casting, and fly fishing ethics has been our strength over the years. This year's event will feature several new programs as well as workshops in these areas.

This is a gathering that will allow Idaho and other regional fly tiers to show their talents to the fly-fishing public and exchange ideas, new and old.

Saturday evening, there will be a banquet with a program, dinner, raffle and auction. We've nearly doubled the number of demonstration fly tiers this year so don't miss the expo from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

You'll see demos from high floating dry flies to deep sinking nymphs and tiers that will show you techniques that are guaranteed to make your fly tying and fishing more rewarding.

(Expo Idaho, 5610 Glenwood, Boise, ID, 83714)

Admission Single \$3.00, two for \$5.00 children, under 14 free

Friday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Fly Tying, Extensive Ladies Program, Casting on an Indoor Pond, Professional Exhibitors, Raffles and Auction Items

Banquet

Larry Gebert will be the "Master Of Ceremony" and Auctioneer
Saturday Evening 6:00pm @ Doubletree Hotel

Fly of the Month: Timberline Emerger

Randall Kaufman by GFW

The *Timberline Emerger* is one of those flies that when it works produces angling magic that will remain in your memory hard-drives for the remainder of your years. The fly is not a realistic imitation but it presents to every fish in the water an impressionistic image that drives the fish into a feeding frenzy. It is especially effective during the *callibaetis* emergence. Fish it with a floating line or an intermediate sink line. Cast to a likely spot, let sink and slowly work it back to the surface. Another method is a slow troll with a kick boat or a float tube. After you have cast out the fly, place your rod tip in the water and pull in a couple of small coils of line. As you slowly kick, give the fly motion by flicking the line in front of the coils with your left pointer finger. When you feel a strike, drop the coils. More than likely the taker of the fly will be big, mean, energetic and would like nothing more than to break you off. His purpose is to take the fly embedded into his jaw to show and warn his buddies. "That fly is too much like the real thing, Don't eat it!" Ironically because of the effectiveness of the fly, the presentation of the fly fisherman, and the fact that the fish has an IQ of 9, Mr. "Big" will take the next "*Timberline Emerger*" he sees. If you don't use the coil system shock absorber system he will, by the end of the day, probably have "*Timberlines*" all around his mouth and you will have both an empty fly box, and an empty spool of 5-X tippet.

Kaufman first published his book the [American Nymph Fly Tying Manual](#) in 1975. His original fly uses material that is hard to get or not legal in the United states. If you tie this pattern substitute angora goat, SLF, or Seal-ex for the otter, seal fur blend. A new "*Timberline*" pattern has evolved, I suggest you tie a good supply of both versions.

Timberline Emerger (original)

Hook: Nymph or wet fly hook 12 -18 (14 is best)
Thread: 8/0 Black or Gray
Tail: 3 black moose body hairs
Body: Mixture of 30% muskrat and 70% gray seal
Wing: Grizzly hackle tips tied short
Hackle: Two turns of brown hen swept back

Timberline Emerger (new version)

Hook: TMC 200R 12-18
Thread: 8/0 Black or Gray
Tail: Short gray marabou
Body: Mixture of gray Hairtron and grey Angora Goat
Rib: Copper wire size to fit the hook
Wing: Grizzly hackle tips tied short
Hackle: Two turns of brown hen swept back



CHOOSING A FLY LINE

By Bruce Richards

How to Choose a Fly Line

GIVEN THE CHOICE between having a very good fly line and an average rod, or a very good rod and an average line, nearly all experts would choose to have the better line. And for good reason. The line is what actually carries the fly to the target and delivers it. It's easy to adjust your casting stroke to accommodate differences in fly rods, but if your line won't shoot through the guides, or float or sink as it should, or carry the fly properly, you're going to have a long, frustrating day on the water. So, how do you know what is the right fly line for the fishing you do?

Typically, four factors determine which fly line is the right choice: *fly size*, the *species and size of fish* you are fishing for, fishing *conditions*, and *your skill as a caster*.

Factor #1: Fly Size

In most cases, the first thing you need to do when choosing a fly line is to consider the flies you will be casting. (In reality, that should be an important part of choosing your rod also.) It's the mass of the fly line that will carry the fly, so if you will be throwing big, heavy or wind resistant flies, you will need enough power in the line to carry them. If your line doesn't have enough "power" (in real terms, mass) to carry the fly through the air, casting will be difficult at best, and certainly not much fun.

Fly lines are rated by weight. The higher the line number, the heavier the line and the better it will cast large flies. Very light lines, of say 0- to 4-weight, are suitable for small trout or panfish flies, typically up to about size 12 hooks (remember: the larger the hook size number, the smaller the hook). 5-6 weight lines are the most commonly used sizes for trout and panfish and work well with flies on hooks up to about size 8. A fly line's taper, which I will describe later, can expand that range some. Line weights 7-9 are most commonly used for fish such as bonefish, bass, steelhead, stripers and other mid-size fish and with flies up to about size 1/0. Lines 10-weight and heavier are reserved for big fish, and often big flies. The rods that match these lines are stiff and powerful and are capable of throwing these heavy lines long distances, and they carry big flies well.

Factor #2: The Fish

Although fly size is the first thing to consider when deciding what weight rig you should have, the fish you plan to pursue can have a big impact on your choice. A good example would be tarpon. Tarpon flies are typically not very big or hard to cast—most could be easily cast with a 7- or 8-weight rod and line. But landing a one-hundred-pound tarpon on one of those medium-sized rods would be a challenge, so a much stiffer rod is normally used. Other examples are warm water species like Pike, Muskie, or Largemouth Bass. While most bass can be easily landed on a 6-weight rod, the flies anglers cast for bass are often very large and wind-resistant. An 8- or 9-weight rod takes the work out of the casting without being truly out of scale with the fish.

Most fly line packaging will indicate the length of the various sections of the fly line and other information, such as whether the front and rear tapers are gradual or more extreme. Pay attention to the length of the head—the front taper, belly, and rear taper combined—where most of the weight of the line is concentrated.

Night fishing for trout is another unique example. In this case "overlining" - using a fly line that is heavier than rated for a rod—offers distinct advantages. Typically night fishing is done at close range and with big flies. Since casting distance is short you'll typically fish with less line outside of the rod tip. Going up a line size, or even two, can help the rod load in close and can also help turn over the big flies.

(There are even a few applications where using a line lighter than recommended makes sense. Extreme distance casting is one. A skilled caster might be able to carry a lot more line outside the rod than the rod designer ever planned on. This means that the weight of the line outside the rod tip is much greater than optimal for the rod. Going down a line size or two, when sixty to eighty feet of line are in the air, allows the caster to throw a tighter loop, and with more speed.)

Factor #3: Wind and Temperature

Sometimes the fish and fly size will indicate a certain line weight, but conditions where the line will be fished will play a large role in choosing size. For example, bonefish flies are typically small and light, and the fish are not usually very big. 5- or 6-weight rods and lines are certainly adequate for most bone fishing, but conditions often require anglers to cast across or even into the wind. The heavier mass of a 7-, 8-, or 9-weight line makes the wind less of a challenge.

Wind also means that many of your casts will be shorter. Lines designed for shorter, faster casts—especially in saltwater—typically feature a shorter “head,” compacting most of the line’s weight into the front of the fly line. These lines typically also have a front taper designed to ensure good fly turnover and delivery. Many of these lines are made to be slightly over-weight for their given rating, another feature that speeds rod loading and delivery. If you don’t have access to one of these specialty lines and plan to fish in tough conditions, a good alternative can be to fish with a line one size higher than your rod.

The other climatic condition that should influence your line choice is temperature. In very hot, tropical weather, plastic-coated (PVC) lines can become quite soft—causing them to tangle more—and limp, causing them to not shoot well. Many lines are designed specifically for tropical heat, with harder coatings and stiffer cores that perform best in the temperature ranges found on bonefish, tarpon, or permit flats. On the other hand, these same lines become stiff and wiry when weather is cold, so don’t make the mistake, for example, of trying to use a specialty bonefish line when fishing for stripers in cold weather.

Factor #4: Caster Skill

More often than not, you’ll be well served by considering the distance that you plan to cast when choosing a line. Most fly line packaging will tell you the length of the various sections of the fly line and other information, such as whether the front and rear tapers are gradual or more extreme. Pay attention to the length of the head—the front taper, belly, and rear taper combined—where most of the weight of the line is concentrated. Your first goal is to match the line’s head length to your typical fishing distances.

For short casts and the kinds of conditions in which most of us learn to fly fish, the line’s head length isn’t all that important because it will rarely be out of the rod anyway. Double taper (DT) lines work well at short range. At short range, little hauling or shooting of line is done, so how the front taper delivers your fly is the most important thing to consider, whether the line be WR (Weight Forward) or DT. However, few of us have the luxury of knowing that all of our casts will be short, so head-length decisions should be made based on the other casts that will be made.

For casting of moderate distances, WF lines with longer heads and lines like the classic “double-taper” work well in most situations. WF lines with short- to medium-length heads are good because they can be carried to a comfortable distance and then shot to the target. This saves time and false casting. DT lines work fine too, but they don’t shoot as well, so the caster needs to be skilled enough to carry more line in the air. In some fishing applications, like stream fishing for trout, line control is very important. WF lines with short heads don’t allow line control beyond short ranges, so go with a DT line, or WF line with longer head.

For fishing that requires longer casts, your casting skill will largely determine what line design will work best. If your skills are average, a line with a short- to medium-length head will work best. If you are a skilled caster who can carry a lot of line in the air, using a line with a long head will enable you to throw farther. There is a downside to lines with long heads though: They take longer to cast. More false casting is required which means the delivery cast will be delayed by a false cast or two. If your application is one that often requires quick casts (e.g. tarpon or permit), choose a line with a short head regardless of your casting skill.

(Continued in the February Newsletter)



P.O. Box 734
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Notice:

All you flyfishers need to post and update the photo albums on the Flyflingers website! Surely you have some better photos than is on there now.

Some men would rather be photographed with their fish than with their wives. . .

Gwen Cooper and Evelyn Haas

Calendar of Events

- Jan 4 - IFF Board- 7 pm at the Grid Iron
- Jan 11 - IFF Membership
Idaho Pizza
6 pm Fly tying Demo
7 pm Program
- Jan 15 - Outing? TBA
- Jan 18 - Fly Tying 7pm
Weiser Library



January 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 IFF Board	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 IFF Member	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Fly Tying	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					