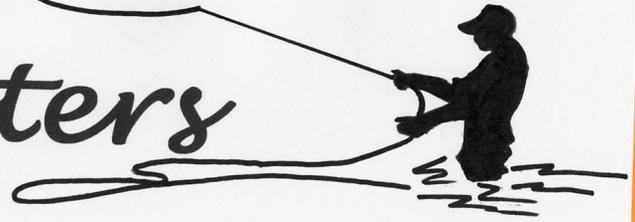




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News Casters



October 2014

President's Message

by Ray Perkins

Officers

President—Ray Perkins
541-889-4441

1st Vice Pres—Mark Sands
549-2545

Past President—Tom Dyer
257-4225

Secretary—Cindy Dyer
257-4225

Treasurer—Jascha Zeittlin
801-831-9459

Board Members

Rod Jones 549-0430

Marv Orwig 484-6837

Mike Thomas 549-2473

Janet Baker 549-3941

Committees

Budget: Jim Gulu, Lynette Jones

Conservation and Youth: Mark Sands,
Nando Mauldin,

Education: Perry Kelley,

Fund Raising: Lynette Jones,
Sarah Gulu

Historian: Open

Library: Rod Jones

Membership: Bill Betts plus Board
members

Newsletter: Jerry Bogue

Outings: Al Sillonis plus Board mem-
bers

Programs: Tom Dyer

Publicity: Perry Kelley

Join in the Fun!

I will miss both the October and November membership meetings because I will be hunting. I drew a buck tag for the Owyhee Unit and will be hunting in the Rome-Arock area in October. I also drew an elk tag for the West Beulah area near Prairie City and will be hunting in the North Fork Malheur River area in November.

I was thinking it would be nice to have a slide show that included pictures from club projects, outings and just fish caught by club members. My idea is to bring together in one place some of the pictures of club members during these activities. I began compiling some of my pictures for a club slide show. To date I have only my pictures of some of the

places I have fished and fish I have caught. I will bring this to the board meeting in November for the board to view. I also thought club members could this slide show at other gatherings to show people some of the things we do. One of the problems I have thought of is the slide show was created on PowerPoint 2013 which may not be compatible on older computers and software.

Fishing has slowed on the Oregon side since all of the large reservoirs are dry. The water remains on below Owyhee Dam, but that could change any day as farming is coming to a close quickly.

Ray

Fly Fishing Tips for Catching Winter Trout

Article by [Kirk Deeter](#) for Field & Stream

Winter can be the most rewarding season of the year for fly anglers. If you can stand the cold, you just might have the river to yourself, experiencing solitude that's rarely found when the mayflies are hatching in spring and summer. But there's another reason to get out and fish between December and March: Winter can also be the most technically challenging season, demanding precision and skill more than any other time of the year. If you can catch fish now, you can catch them any time.



The trick to catching fish with flies in the winter boils down to four simple rules: **Slow Down; Size Down; Tone Down; Present Down(stream).**

Now, here's the lowdown.

Slow Down

Tip 1—The Trout Forecast: When water temperatures drop, the trout themselves slow down. Their metabolisms decrease. They become more lethargic. They don't chase flies

as actively as they would when the water temperatures are in the ideal trout zone of 45 to 65 degrees. One way around that, of course, is to fish in tailwaters—rivers that flow from bottom-release dams. The water released from those dams remains at a relatively constant temperature (usually in the 40s or 50s) throughout the whole year. So the fish don't feel much difference between July and January—though shorter days and seasonally different insect hatches do indeed change the angling paradigms substantially between summer and winter.

Tip 2—Stalk Softly & Cast High: When trout are in the slowed down winter mode, the angler should slow down as well. Rivers are usually at their lowest and clearest in midwinter. Bright-white, snow-covered banks reflect light and exaggerate shadows more. While winter trout typically aren't as "jumpy" as they are in the summer, that doesn't

mean they are much less spooky. I typically try to slow my pace and movements by at least 25 percent when I fish in the winter. I am particularly concerned about the position of the lower winter sun, so I can be careful not to cast long shadows over the runs I target. I also spend more time high on the riverbanks spotting fish before I cast. If you can see and then specifically tar-

get trout, your odds of hooking up are exponentially greater than they are when blind casting in the winter.

Tip 3—Make Slow & Short Strips: Streamer fishing can be good in winter, especially in tailwaters. But again, I tend to slow the tempo down a tad in winter. Instead of the long, aggressive strips I make with my fly line in summer in fall, I'm more apt to make slow, choppy strips in winter.

Size Down

Tip 1—Be a Nymphing Maniac: I typically fish with smaller flies in the winter, and 99 percent of winter flyfishing is nymph fishing. At any time of the year, midges comprise more than 50 percent of a trout's diet. So these small insects are extremely important for anglers to understand and imitate in every season. But the midge game is especially important in winter, because there is not much mayfly or terrestrial activity then.

Tip 2—Black Stoneflies Are Best: Another very important bug to key into during the winter is the little black stonefly. While these stoneflies share the same basic shapes and dark colors as their spring and summer counterparts, these insects are typically much smaller (like size 16 or smaller). While egg flies (small ones) and, in some cases, attractors like Prince Nymphs are useful winter patterns, an angler cannot go wrong in most locales if they fish little black stoneflies and small midge patterns (like zebra midges, juju midges, and black beauties) the vast majority of the time.

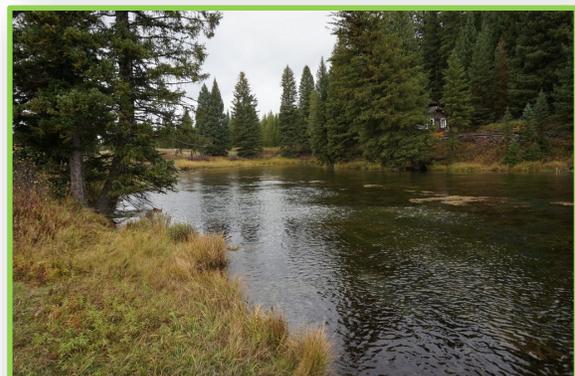
Tip 3—Lighten Your Tippet: I also make a point to size down on my fly rig when I trout fish in the winter. If I normally fish a river with 4X tippet, I'll usually drop down to 5X. I think the light and shadow contrast on bright winter days added to the low clear water is a recipe for making trout more leader shy than they might normally be in summer. It's also important to drift flies directly to the trout in winter, so smaller tippet helps with presentation.

Tip 4—Same With Your Strike Indicator: I never throw big, gaudy strike indicators in the winter. Instead, I prefer to use small pieces of yarn, pinch-on foam, or when the water is really low and slow, I'll use a dry fly like as small parachute Adams as my de-facto strike indicator.

Don't forget the membership
meeting Tuesday, October 14.

September Outing

Nine members of IHFF enjoyed their stay at Island Park Resort in Eastern Idaho. Sept. 28 and Oct. 1 were travel days while Sept. 28 and 29 were fishing and scouting days. All the men fished Henrys Lake on Monday and all caught fish. Most fish caught were Yellowstone Cutthroats from 16" to 21" in length. Also caught were Cuttbows (24"), Brook Trout(17") and Whitefish. Tuesday was river fishing on the Henrys Fork of the Snake River. An attempt to catch fish in Harriman State Park was futile because the coots (not us or other old ones) upstream causes floating grass problems. Box Canyon was next. We found it! Then on to Coffee Pot Rapids which we never found. Then on to Last Chance which it really was. This was the only place it quit raining and the catching was nil. Saw lots of rain, mud and water. Big Springs (the beginning of the Henrys Fork) was a site enjoyed by all.



FLY OF THE MONTH

One of the most successful dry flies of all times is the **Yellow Humpy**. The original recipe called for deer body hair for the tail, hump and wing with a yellow floss body and brown and grizzly hackle. Getting the proportions correct was a real challenge, thus even the very experienced fly tiers shied away from this pattern. Hence, a pattern easy to make and just as effective needed to be developed. Thus the **Easy Humpy**: easy to tie, very effective, visible to both the fish and the fisherman, and it really works.

EASY HUMPY

Hook: Dry fly, 12-16

Tail: 4-6 moose body hairs

Under Body: Yellow or PMD fine and dry dubbing

Shell Back: Tan Razor Foam—1/8 inch wide

Hackle: Brown or Brown and Grizzly dry fly hackle (Note) I hackle should cover the front ¼ of the hook shank. Trim the bottom of the hackle to orientate the angle of floatation

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Make a tread bump at the end of the hook shank to splay the moose hair.
- 2) Make an arrow point on the razor foam and tie in directly in front of the tail.
- 3) Dub in the fine and dry. Leave at least ¼ hook shank bare for hackle.
- 4) Bring foam over the dubbed under-body, tie off and clip the access.
- 5) Tie in hackle.
- 6) Clip the bottom of the hackle straight.





P.O. Box 734, Weiser, Idaho

NEWS FLASH

The only member to owe dues this month is **Jim and Sara Gulu**. Ain't that a kick?

If I agreed with you, we'd both be wrong.



If you are having trouble identifying the fish caught at the recent outing at Island Park, ask Mike at the meeting Tuesday, Oct. 14.. He took the Pictures

OCTOBER 2014

Coming Events

Oct 7—IFF Board,
7 pm, Idaho Pizza,

Oct 14—IFF Membership
6:00 pm—Social Hour
7:00 pm—Meeting
Idaho Pizza,

Oct 21—Fly Tying,
7:00 pm
Weiser Library

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 IFF Board Meeting	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 IFF Member Meeting	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Fly Tying Weiser	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

