

The Hackle Bender

Boise Valley Fly Fishers

September, 2022



Welcome to September!

Crisp mornings, wadeable streams, vibrantly colored brook trout and running steelhead. Just some of the things that make fall special to many of us. Migrating ducks and geese overhead remind us that the calendar is moving on from the heat of summer toward the inevitable winter. Enjoy it; it never lasts long enough for me.



Treasurer's Report:

Membership:

As of August 27, our club had 242 members. Since our last issue, the following fly-fishers joined our club:

Deborah DeSousa family, Vince DiLorenzo, Jason Hirsh, Jason Kajkowski family, Steven Key family, Christ Troupis family, Matt Mcallister, Brian Mitchell, Russel Smerz, Liam Walsh, Steve Worsley, Roger Johnson and Alec Schuster

Board of Directors:

The Board has approved the annual budget for the fiscal year of July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. This budget anticipates a deficit of \$7,800. The club has the resources to cover this deficit and will not enter into debt. The current budget reflects a greatly increased activity level in the conservation, community outreach, and outings. We are also in the

Calendar:

September 8 monthly meeting.
In-person & via Zoom. 6:00pm.

September 15-18 club outing.
South fork Snake river. Sign up online.

October 13 monthly meeting.
In-person & via Zoom. 6:00pm.

October 14-16 club outing.
Duck valley, register online.

October 14-16 club outing. Bear lake/Bear river. Tentative.

November 4-6 Virtual fly expo with FFI. Details on club page.

January 6-7 18th annual BVFF Fly Fishing EXPO at Expo Idaho.

FOR MORE CALENDAR ITEMS
CHECK [BVFF.COM](https://bvff.com)



FFI Affiliate Club

process of updating our IT equipment to provide a better experience in meetings and tying demonstrations.

All of this takes money and the Board is looking at ways to bring in more income. We will hold the annual Western Idaho Fly Fishing EXPO in January 2023. We are also looking at other areas to supplement what the EXPO brings in.

This expanded activity doesn't just happen; it takes the commitment of many volunteers. If you are interested in being a part of the process, please consider volunteering for either the Board of Directors, as an Officer, as part of the EXPO team, or for any of the several teams that can be found on our website.

Financial:

Our club funds totaled \$36,626 at the end of July, down \$1,855 from what we had at the end of March. Our biggest expenditures have been to upgrade equipment for outings, the annual insurance premium, and initial costs for EXPO 2023.

Kent Christensen

Email: kentchristensen73@gmail.com

GEAR UP!

Check Current Fishing Reports to get the latest:

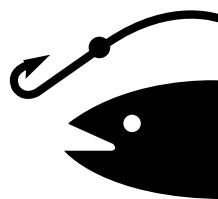
Idaho Angler Reports

3 Rivers Ranch Reports— Owyhee River / Boise River

Boise Anglers Reports

Silver Creek Outfitters

Henry's Fork/Henry's Lake/Henry's Fork Foundation Reports



Check current streamflows before you go:

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current/?type=flow>



Check current reservoir levels:

<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/select.html>



Memorable Trips

Submitted by Ted Eisele

It started as I was watching a tv show featuring Conway Bowman (a one-time host of Flyfishing the World). Conway had been a pioneer in the sport of fishing for Pacific sharks with a fly rod. He was targeting mako sharks. Each time they'd hook one, the shark would go on drag-burning runs and make leaps that would make a steelhead jealous. My reaction to the show was immediate and strong. I've gotta try that!

I contacted Conway, who was fully booked. But he told me to talk to one of his protégés, Dave Trimble, who operated On The Fly outfitters in San Diego. Done! It was booked for September, and I would bring my daughter along to share in the adventure. Katie had not fly fished much, but she loves the outdoors and is an adventurous soul.



Trimble had a 14-weight Sage Xi rod as well as a 10-weight. He would start me out with the 14 weight, since the first fish we attracted to the chummed water was a big 8-foot hammerhead. Casting that rod felt like trying to cast with a telephone pole. There was no flex at all, and it was exhausting. I wondered if it was really necessary to go that big. Trimble tried to tease the fish with a spin rod lure that had no hook, and I was to then cast my fly as he pulled his lure away to entice a take. Over and over again we tried, but he would not play. Finally I said, "let's forego the teaser and let's just try the fly." This generated more interest from the big fish, and he would cruise right up alongside the side of the boat, which is how the guide measured him. As he started acting more excited and aggressive, he went to the back of the boat and bit the motor mount. Yikes! I turned to my daughter and said, "we're NEVER telling your mother!" (At least I didn't say something cheesy like "we're gonna need a bigger boat", even though that's about what I felt at that moment.) The fish went back to cruising just under the side of the boat and then turned and started going straight back toward the stern, which would give me a perfect angle for a good hook set. Bang! He was on.

He ran like crazy, and I told Dave, "there's no way I can keep up with this fish unless we start the motor and follow him." That allowed me to stay up with him, but now that "telephone pole" of a fly rod had a huge bend in it. Yeah, the guide knew what he doing after all! I needed every bit of that rod's strength. Then instead of running in the top of the water column, he went straight to the bottom. For the umpteenth time I thought that fish would spool me for sure. But I worked him back up, and finally got him on the surface looking like a tired, beached whale. I was sure we had him, but I was as tired as he was. Then he surprised us by flexing his tail fin all the way around to his mouth area until it severed the 30-pound leader. Dave had timed it and said I fought that fish for 45 minutes!



8-foot hammerhead swimming away from the boat. The spots in the water are from the shark chum.

The next sharks to arrive were blue sharks. The ones that showed up were small, only 6 to 12 pounds. But they were so much fun I could have caught them all day. Sight fishing is always a thrill, and the casts are close enough to the boat that you watch every move the fish makes, always hoping it results in a take. My daughter had never caught a fish on a fly rod, and she took a turn, hooking a beautiful 12-pound blue shark. I was so excited I was trying to coach her to make sure she didn't lose her first good fish. Of course our guide coached her too, and I'm sure I sounded like a typical nervous dad watching his kid play a Little League game. At any rate, despite having 2 people shouting advice to her, she landed the fish, and the smile she flashed may have been the biggest I've ever seen (see photo). What a way to record your first fish!

We ended up landing 5 blue sharks. I got to touch the head of one of the fish, and as you may have heard, while their skin looks very smooth, it feels like sandpaper.

By this time the long-anticipated mako showed up. It looked just like a great white, but smaller. In A.J. McClane's Game Fish of North America, he says "The glorious mako is one of the world's great game fish ... probably no other fish can achieve as much elevation."

This wasn't one of the giant 100-pound makos that are sometimes landed. Dave estimated it as a 50-pound fish. I got it all the way to the boat's hull and it was at least 4-feet long. Still, what a thrill to not only get a mako, but to hook 3 different species of shark.

We caught the mako (and all the blue sharks) on the 10-weight rod, which was much more fun to cast. But it would have been too light for the hammerhead.

It was a day I'll never forget. Not only for the fishing, but for having my daughter there to share in the day. And Dave Trimble was a great guide. He knew his stuff and was a great guy to spend the day with. If you want a special thrill, try a day with him off San Diego.

"A day I'll never forget."

EXPO 2023 Planning Under Way

By Jim Kazakoff, Expo committee chairman



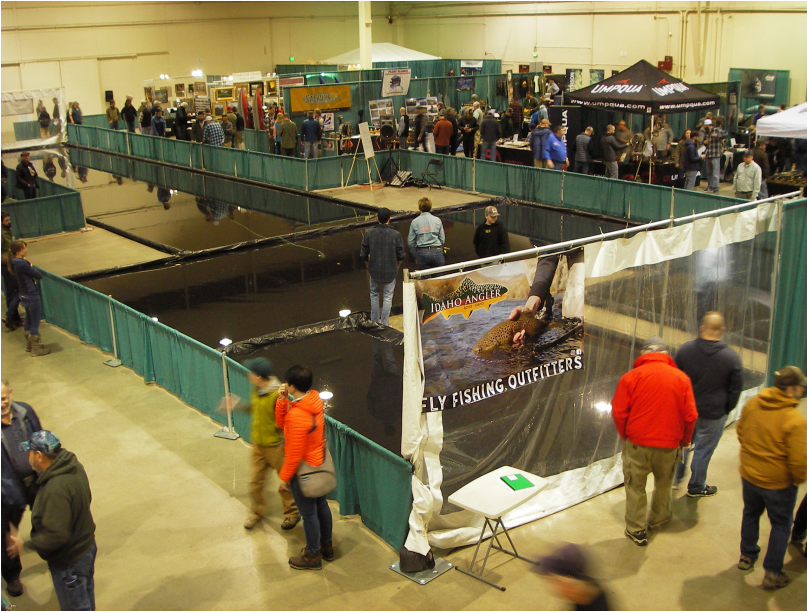
Organization and planning has begun for the **Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo**, to be held Jan 6-7, 2023. This is the 18th annual expo since 2004, with one gap year in 2021 for COVID 19. If you have never attended an expo, then you should not miss this one. If you have attended an expo, don't miss the chance to come learn something new. January is often a little cold to fish, but the perfect time to start thinking about fly fishing in the new year.

The Expo is the rendezvous of fly fishers and aspiring fly fishers in the Treasure Valley. We will have educational presentations from notable local and regional fly-fishing experts providing information on how to be better anglers, and on destination waters you will want to fish some day. There will be two demonstration casting ponds—a single-handed rod casting pond, and a two-handed or Spey rod pond, with tips from those in the know on how to improve your cast. The BVFF two-hand pond is a unique feature among fly fishing shows.

Some of the best fly tyers in the region will be on hand to demonstrate their skills, both in a presentation theater and in an informal one-on-one tying area. Up to 50 or more fly tyers will be present during the show. If you or a family member have never tied before, our First Time Fly Tyer area will be available, with assistance to help you tie your first fly.

Exhibitors at the event will include representatives from various fly-fishing tackle companies, where you can see and buy the latest equipment and gear, as well as possibly get a deal on this year's close out items. Representatives from agencies and conservation organizations will be present to provide information on their organizations, and on the important work they are doing. BVFF will highlight the community and conservation projects we have been involved with, as well as the

activities and benefits of the club. The expo is THE fly-fishing community event of the year in the Treasure Valley.



However, BVFF Expo is more than an educational event. The proceeds generated from this expo are necessary to fund the club operations and fly-fishing education, and more importantly, the conservation and community projects that BVFF has underway. BVFF has made significant contributions to the conservation of our shared waterways and resources, which ultimately is what allows us to enjoy our passion for fly fishing.

Be watching the BVFF website and social media for updates.

SPONSORSHIP and EXHIBITORS

To make the expo both a financial and public success it is critical that we secure sponsorships for the event, and fill the exhibitor booths with companies and organizations that are beneficial to the show. Sponsorships demonstrate support of the values, projects, and activities of BVFF, as well as providing company recognition. Companies and organizations that cannot sponsor but would like to be present at the expo by purchasing a booth are also being sought. If you own, know of, or have contacts at a company or organization that would be a great candidate as an expo sponsor or have interest in a booth, please contact me or an organizing committee member. ExpoChair@BVFF.com , or ExpoCommittee@BVFF.com.

EXPO VOLUNTEERS

The expo organizing committee is underway, but there are still a few unfilled positions, and time is short. We can use your help. If you cannot help the committee, we also will need volunteers during the week and days of the expo to staff the event. If you would like to help please call or send an email to ExpoVolunteers@BVFF.com.

The expo is always great fun.



Handle with Care While Capturing Memories for Life

By Dave Shuldes



As I write this I have just put the finishing touches on flies for my annual trip above 8,000 feet in Central Idaho. I love the staging of gear nearly as much as the trip itself. There's only one shot at getting the kit right for a week in the wilderness, so every detail is double-checked. My fishing won't be measured by numbers. A few photos of some exceptional fish along with the adventure and the camaraderie of a safe backpacking trip with friends will be all I need.

In addition to taking care of my gear and my friends, one of my goals will be to appreciate and take care of the fish found in these alpine lakes. Just like my camping list, this involves details. When a beautiful alpine lakes' brookie, cutthroat, golden, grayling or rainbow comes to hand, I'll show my appreciation for the fish by using these guidelines:

- I'll use barbless hooks.
- I'll keep my hands wet while handling the fish and will cradle it rather than squeezing it.
- I won't touch the fish and will keep it from touching dry surfaces like rocks and grass.
- I'll keep the fish in the water as long as possible, minimizing air exposure and handling time.




"Take only photos, leave only footprints" as backpackers say. Photos are a key part of my passion for fly fishing and the wilderness. But I won't appear in any of those fish pictures... I'll save that for a group shot at the camp. The fish itself is the main event. I don't stress every fish with the photo



process - I will limit that to the memorable ones. Some fish are extraordinary, not only by size but also by vibrancy and markings. I'm looking for colors, spots and details to appear in the frame. Flared fins and a submerged head are a bonus. Ideally the fish will be swimming in the water on the end of the line (to me it's worth the risk of losing the fish before the photo is taken). I'll have everything set up on my camera long before the fish is hooked. Holding the fish by the line with the hook still in its mouth in shallow water, I'll shoot a rapid succession of random shots. I can crop, discard and edit later on. I'll minimize the photo session time with any one fish and release it quickly after one series of shots.

For river fishing, I'll add use of a net to my fish handling and take special care to release quickly when water temps are warm. Using the net as a "live well" to hold the fish while it's reviving is a great opportunity to frame a vibrant swimming photo.

A fish mortality study by R.A. Ferguson and B.L. Tufts considered time a trout was held out of the water. Their findings showed that fish released and kept in the water had a mortality rate of 12%. Fish lifted from the water for 30 seconds had a 38% mortality rate. 72% of the fish held out of water for a full minute died. All research has its flaws, but holding fish out of the water can be harmful if not lethal. I would like to think that most fish handled in the manner above can potentially spawn and be available to another angler in the future. Taking care of the fish in this way is a great fit with our BVFF Angling Code.

	Angling Code
1. Take care of the fish	
2. Respect other anglers	
3. Leave it better than you found it	

I absolutely love what wilderness fly fishing adds to my enjoyment of life. I am so grateful for the wildlife resources we have to enjoy in Idaho. In return I want to appreciate the life involved and treat it well. Tight lines everyone

BVFF supporting Scouts

BVFF continues to support the fishing programs for the Mountain West Council BSA.

For the last three years, BVFF has provided material, loaned fly tying kits and provided training to staff for resident camping programs at Morrison, (McCall) and Bradley Scout Reserve at Cape Horn near Stanley.

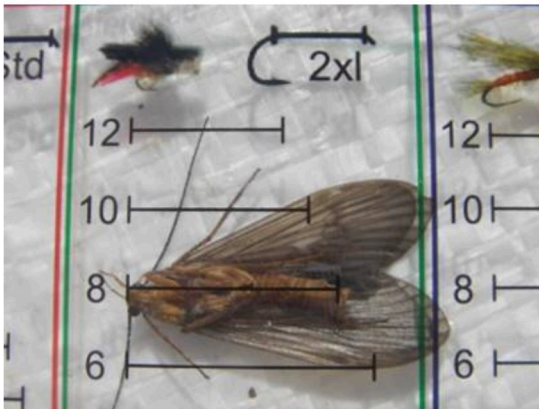
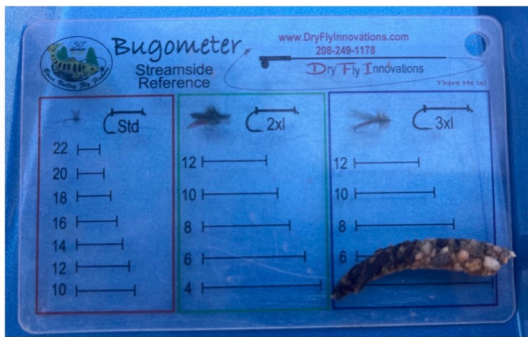
R.D. Hill, Mountain West Camp Director thanked BVFF for their continued support of the program and his staff. If you know of youth that would be interesting in the scouting program, this is a link to the Mountain West Homepage:

<https://www.mountainwestcouncil.org/>

Our support is helping kids learn about fishing and the environment.



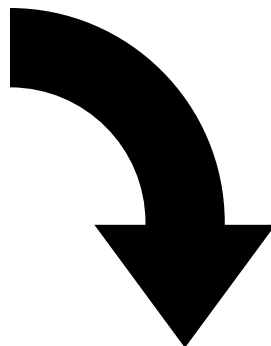
Take the BVFF Bug ID Challenge!



-Photos courtesy Jon Fishback and Troy Pearse

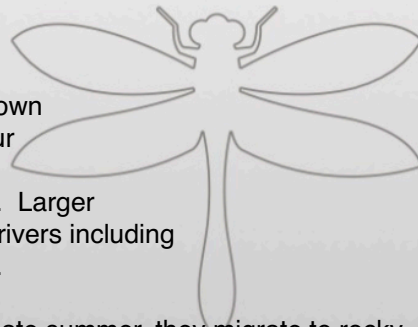
Note the size of this bug. Then go to the BVFF Facebook page and identify this bug.

And don't forget to check out the Bug Corner.



FALL CADDIS

Fall is just around the corner and so is the Fall Caddis, also known as the October Caddis. Fall Caddis are present on many of our local rivers, including the Middle and South Forks of the Boise river and there are even a few on the main Boise through town. Larger populations of the Fall Caddis can be found on northern Idaho rivers including the Lochsa, upper North Fork of the Clearwater and the St Joe.



Fall Caddis larvae live in a large pebbled case for one year. In late summer, they migrate to rocky edge-water, attach their cases and start to pupate. Hatches start in mid-September and go through October, and can continue into early November at lower elevations. One tip for fishing the Fall Caddis is to look for these large caddis cases and make a note to come back and fish that spot in the Fall.

Big bugs on the surface are always fun, and the Fall Caddis is no exception. My best Fall Caddis dry fly fishing is in the evenings, targeting structure along current seams near the edge of the river with rapid-fire casts and short drifts, sometimes twitching and hopping the pattern. Trout takes are often explosive as soon as the pattern hits the water, so be ready! During the day I use a heavily weighted pupa pattern for my anchor fly when nymphing. Swinging a soft hackle pupa with your Trout Spey Rod is another effective technique, and also works well for steelhead on rivers where Fall Caddis are present like the Grande Ronde.



I like a heavily hackled pattern for my dry fly. It's hard to beat an Orange Stimulator or orange Elk Hair Caddis. I tie my Fall Caddis on a size #8 TMC 5212 2XL "hopper hook". Commercially tied Stimulators are typically tied on a 3XL hook, so if you are buying your flies you want to size down to a #10. For a pupa pattern I like soft hackle patterns like Morrish's Deep October Pupa tied on a heavy nymph hook such as the TMC 5262.

For additional information on the Fall Caddis life cycle and some amazing pictures of them hatching at night, check out Arlen Thomason's book "Bug Waters", which is a bug-book every serious angler should own. Pay attention to his pictures of the pupal shucks and then look for them as you are fishing in the Fall and you will find a good spot to target with an Orange Stim that evening.

—Troy Pearse

Bug Corner

FFI Grant For Owyhee Gravel Augmentation

BVFF has received a \$3,000 grant from Fly Fishers International (FFI) to help fund our gravel augmentation project on the Owyhee River. We have also applied for a \$2,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and will hear from them by the end of October. My thanks to BVFF member Forrest Goodrum for his help in submitting for the FFI grant.



-Troy Pearce

The gravel augmentation is planned for early November, which is the beginning of the “work window” for doing in-river work in Oregon. We have targeted the lower end of the river for the augmentation because it has much less suitable spawning habitat and less brown trout spawning activity. If all goes well, this gravel augmentation will improve the productivity of the lower river and make for much better fishing in years to come.

Keep watch for volunteer opportunities in early November to help with the project. It should be quite a show to watch the gravel-slinger truck shoot 100 cubic yards of gravel into the river!



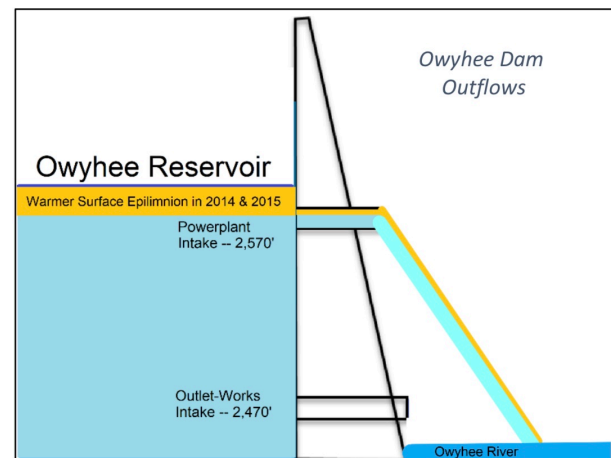
Owyhee River Water Temperatures

Between 2015 and 2020 there was a concerning drop in the brown trout population on the Owyhee River in Oregon, particularly in the lower reaches between the tunnel and the concrete bridge 10 miles downstream. Several years ago the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) started looking into the causes to try and protect this precious fishery. The leading suspects were 1) Anglers wading through brown trout spawning redds; 2) Predation of brown trout fry; and 3) Excessively warm water temperatures.

To help address the first issue, BVFF worked with ODFW in 2019 and installed Redd Protection Signs at major spawning sites. To help reduce the chance of brown trout eating their own fry, ODFW increased stocking of rainbow trout fry in the river, which

is why there has been a sudden increase in the number of rainbow trout being caught.

ODFW's first review of water temperatures showed that the river stayed plenty cool for trout during the summer, even down as far as Snively Springs. But further analysis of historical water temperatures at the Bureau of Reclamation stream gauge (about a mile below the dam) showed that during the extended drought years of 2013 – 2015, Owyhee Reservoir levels dropped to the point that the power turbines started pulling in some warmer surface water which caused increased water temperatures to be released from the dam. We estimate that water temperatures released from the dam in August of 2014 and 2015 were 60 – 65 degrees compared to the normal summertime 50 degrees. This puts water temperatures in the lower reaches of the river into the upper 70s to low 80s, which is in the lethal range for browns.



Over the last two years, BVFF and ODFW have been researching the water temperature issue. We found that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license for power generation at the Owyhee Dam requires that outflows be managed to ensure water temperatures are acceptable for trout in the river below. Using this information, ODFW has been able to successfully negotiate with the Owyhee irrigation district to change dam operations to pull water from deeper in the reservoir when needed. Luckily with our super-wet spring the Owyhee reservoir levels were higher than anticipated so it has not been a problem this year, but we are very happy to have this agreement in place and are thankful to ODFW for their work to help alleviate another warm water event and protect the brown trout on the Owyhee River. The brown trout population on the Owyhee river continues to recover, although the lower river is recovering slower than the upper river, partially because of having less spawning habitat. Our club's gravel augmentation project this Fall will give brown trout new places to spawn and hopefully will increase the population of brown trout on the lower half of the river.

Special thanks go to Kirk Handley and Dave Banks at ODFW for their ongoing efforts on the Owyhee river. My personal thanks go to BVFF member Forrest Goodrum for his help digging through the FERC dam licensing documents and to Ryan Hedricks from the Bureau of Reclamation for his help understanding the Owyhee dam operation and being a liaison between the different groups.

Diane Moore Nature Center Trail and Signs

FISHERMAN ACCESS TRAIL

BVFF has received a grant from the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation to build a formal fisherman access trail at the new Diane Moore Nature Center. The access trail will formalize a current “social trail” that is causing erosion and give anglers a formal path to the river while stopping bank erosion and protecting native habitat. We will be working with the

Intermountain Bird Observatory to create signs to educate users about the Nature Center and Barber Pool conservation area. It will be a 2-day project in early October. Stay tuned for more details. We will need a good number of volunteers to help build the access trail.

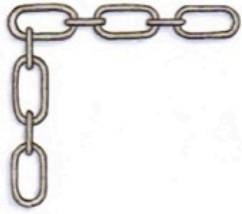


NEW SIGNS

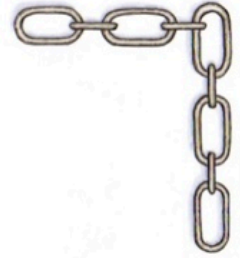
In August BVFF volunteers installed Trout Habitat and Anti-Litter signs along the restored side channel at the new Diane Moore Nature Center, located between Barber Park and Lucky Peak. The signs look great, and we are very excited to have the very first anti-litter signs on the Boise River. We are hoping to be able to leverage them into more access locations in the future.

We were joined by Link Jackson, local outdoor enthusiast who designed artwork for the Side Channel sign, as well Greg Kaltenecker from the Intermountain Bird Observatory who has been leading the development of the Diane Moore Nature Center. Thanks to our volunteers: Scott Lenz, Randy James, Klaus Kissman , Jack Truschel, Jon Fishback , Jose' DeSousa, Tim Opp, Johnny Rogers, Kent Christensen, Brian Martin , George Butts, Jeff Jones and Troy Pearse.





Interesting Fly fishing links:



- The Lonesome Larry Project is getting lots of attention.
-
- Idaho steelhead run forecast.
-
- Beetles are often a good option when other flies don't work.
-
- Is there a proper way to carry a wading staff?
-
- Deschutes river water issues are in the news again.
-
- Simms sold; promises to remain in Bozeman.
-
- Is your indicator too big?
-
- A fly tyer falls in love with fly tying resin.
-
- Information on the 2022 Fly Fishers International Virtual Expo
-
- Here's a good video explaining how caddis are different from mayflies.
-
- Are we too focused on being consumers of our gear?
-
- Love hopper fishing? Then this is for you.

Fill the Net!

Help keep our rivers and lakes clean. Post a picture of your net filled with streamside trash on our Facebook page with the hashtag #fillthenet and we will send you a nifty fly fishing gift!

Recent #fillthenet posts have been made by Kent Christensen, Dave Asker, Dave Shuldes, Klaus Kissman, Jon Fishback, Jim Kazakoff, Mike Dittman, Sr., Matt McAllister, John Robert Hofland, Troy Pearse and his sidekick Maggie.

George Butts, Fill the Net Coordinator





We're doing something new this issue. We're sending out The Hackle Bender in a new format via email. The email will contain the beginning of each article, and by clicking on the link, you can read the entire article.

Why are we doing this? For a few reasons:

1. This format will give us valuable data on how many people read each article, so that we can use that to design future issues.
2. This format will adjust each article for viewing on mobile devices, as well as computers. It should help with readability.
3. By this method, our content will be searchable online, giving the club a higher profile and reaching new potential members.
4. We are always willing to experiment in the effort to bring you a better product, knowing we can always revert to previous methods of production.

The Hackle Bender is also still available in PDF form like other issues from the past 3 years. There are some advantages to the old format if you like to print out the entire newsletter, or prefer the layout and aesthetics of that version. If you prefer the single document PDF form, you can download it [here](#):

The next step in this little experiment is to find out how members feel about the change. Which version do you prefer? Please consider emailing the editor with your feedback:

Editor (Ted Eisele)
communications@bvff.com



It's time to get on the water with BVFF

How has your time on the water been going? In my case, it's never enough. The primary goal of the BVFF Outings team is to help you get on the water more. We do that with scheduled outings, traditionally on the third weekend of the month and we have introduced the "Meet-up" concept of an outing.

A scheduled outing is basically an overnight trip that we publish as soon as possible on the [BVFF events calendar](#).

This provides a one-stop location for all BVFF events. I would recommend that you select the calendar view and match with your own. The outings team is already planning outings for 2023, so you will have to select 2023 to see our planned trip to Ashton, June 2023. Make your plans and reservations now.

<https://www.bvff.com/event-4858037?>

[CalendarViewType=0&SelectedDate=8/22/2023](#)

We will be updating as we recruit an "Outings Coordinator" for the events. Do it as a team with your fishing buddy!. Rumor has it that the team is planning an extended outing to the McCall are in July 2023 – keep watching for details.

So, what is a meet-up? Simply a member saying "I am going fishing, who wants to join me?" The member works with the outings team to develop a quick announcement. It's a great way to fish more. This summer we had meet-ups lead by Steve Adkins, Tom Old, Scott Lieberg, John Hofland and Glenn Anders. Plus, Bob Harder was the host for the Silver Creek outing in June.

For either a scheduled outing or meet-up, we need a coordinator (member), who will help with the event. The outings team's role is to manage the process and the communications to the member base. We have detailed instructions and will walk you through the process, so if you would like to help BVFF get on the water. This process only takes a few minutes to plan, plus hosting the event on the water. So contact, to help BVFF: outings@bvff.com

To help promote BVFF and to help members find our group, we now have a feather flag that we will install, when possible, for you to find us and enjoy your BVFF membership.

See you "On the Water with BVFF."

Tom Old, Outings team lead.



Speaking of Filling the Net ...

by George Butts, Fill The Net Coordinator

As I've driven the roads into each river and parked my car, I notice trash here and there. I must admit, I don't always stop to pick it up, though I often do. I encourage you to take a few minutes from your fishing outings to pick up what others have left behind. Here are a few ideas:

1. Where you park your car look around. There's usually something to pick up,
2. As you are fishing, look along the shore and even in the river. I've found Korker soles, lures, monofilament, bait containers, and a fine pair of nail clippers. I'll often stick these items in my chest pouch, set them on shore, and pick them up on my way back up or down the river,
3. Walking back to your car on a trail or along the road after a day on the river is often productive.

Be sure to take a picture and post it to [#FillTheNet](#) and [#LeaveItBetter](#), the BVFF website, BVFF Blog, or send it to George Butts. Your example is needed to encourage others to follow. As to the swag that George sends, if you don't want it, just let him know.



To the left you can see "Mutt Mitts," which are on the greenbelt for trash collecting. [#FillTheNet](#) and [#LeaveItBetter](#)

These Trout Hero mesh bags (picture to the right) are great to have on the river to pack out trash. And Pescador On The Fly will send you one for FREE! Be a Trout Hero! To get your own mesh bag go [HERE](#). Use Code TROUTHERO at check-out.



Imagine if every time you hit the stream, you make it a little bit cleaner. Imagine if you go fishing two times per month, you could effectively take twenty four bags of trash from the wilderness each year. Now imagine if 100 people adopt this new habit. That's twenty four hundred bags of trash from the wilderness. Now imagine if we get to one thousand anglers, then ten thousand anglers. We can make a difference.

(Image to left: Floater season on the Boise river is resulting in lots of trash.)

Leave It Better

by Brian Martin, Leave It Better Coordinator

How are you all? I hope your summer has been filled with travel, adventure, family, and friends. And FLY FISHING! Can't forget that. I've had the opportunity to fish with several BVFF members on the Owyhee and the Middle Fork of the Boise. We've had some terrific outings: caught some fish (I'd tell you the size, but you wouldn't believe me) and have gotten to know each other a little bit better.

River Cleanup Events

In past years, BVFF has joined other organizations in river cleanup events on the Boise and Owyhee Rivers although we have organized a few ourselves. Beginning this fall, we will have a cleanup event planned for early October. I'm leaning toward Saturday the 8th. Water levels should be down to at or near winter flows. It will be on the Boise River in Garden city at the section where we did the gravel augmentation. Keep an eye out for details as we approach that timeframe.

One thing we want to avoid is becoming known as the Boise Valley Trash Cleanup Club nor do we want to overburden you with far too many events like this. There's fishing to be done!

Look for the cleanup information to be listed on our website under Events sometime mid-September. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Adopt-A-River-Mile

We are looking into a national river adoption program that began in Illinois on the Mississippi River by an organization called Living Lands & Waters. Check out their website at <https://www.livinglandsandwaters.org/>. This is a river stewardship program designed to keep our waterways clean providing a healthy environment for fish to thrive.

Our plan is for BVFF to adopt a 1-mile section of the Boise River in the area of our gravel augmentation in Garden City. From there we hope to partner with the cities, counties, and other jurisdictions from the Highway 21 bridge/diversion dam down through Star and possibly further. Each mile section would be adopted by a concerned organization or group. The Women Fly Fishers of Idaho have already expressed an interest in adopting a section if we get the ball rolling.

This is a huge undertaking and will take a while to come to fruition. If you have contacts in any of the governmental jurisdictions along the river corridor let us know. Together we can plant the seed of this idea in their minds and watch it grow.

Your help is always appreciated. If you would like to volunteer for any of these projects, let us know or go to our website and register when they are posted.

Thank you to our business members!



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