

Hi-Desert Flyfishers



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June 8, 2010

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Education/Instructor: John Rose

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Send Articles to: glapplebee@gmail.com



President's Message

We had a great turn out last month and Keith Kern presentation was excellent. I hope those that can make it to the June 12th outing at Big Bear Lake. Keith will be guiding at no charge. This training/outing will provide valuable information on how to fish bigger waters. Please remember we will still need to have our equipment inspected and pay for the daily float-tube fee; that will cost \$15.00. Keith will meet us near the parking area by the Observatory at 8 am.

On 5/17, I went fishing with Josh Armstrong, Jim Faulkenberry, and Jeff Retiff, near the Lower Owens. Fishing was ok, however this spring weather sure has thrown a wrench in the fishing gears. Josh and I walked into a woody area, just below the first power station, directly above the Pleasant Valley Reservoir. Fishing was great until they started releasing water, and trust me there is no warning, and if you don't pay attention you will get caught by the rising water. Lower Owens is also blown out, 600 cfs.

Fly tying meeting had a showing of four guys, and there was only seven guys and gals who helped out at the

General Meeting Notice

Date: Tuesday; June 8, 2010

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: County Fire Station

Address: 19235 Yucca loma Rd.
Apple Valley

Website: www.hidesertflyfishers.com

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HD Club Discount Locations

Arizona Flyfishers: www.azflyfishing.net

Sierra Trading Post: www.sierratradingpost.com

Flymen Fishing: www.flymenfishingcompany.com

Sierra Stream:
www.stillwaterflyfishingadventures.com

Sierra Trout Magnet: Dave D'beaupre, owner
(760) 873-0010 10%
www.sierratroutmagnet.com

PAL fishing trip on 5/22. These events are for the benefit of the club and our community. Thank you to those who made it. The fly tying class will continue to be at the fire station on the Friday of our meeting.

On Saturday 6/19 we will have a fly tying at Bass Pro. Please let me know if you can make it. It's a great opportunity to promote the club. We can meet for breakfast at the Denny's restaurant and then head over to Bass Pro around 9 am.

I hope everyone that has taken their shirts to Valley Sporting Goods is happy with the embroidery work, the shirts look really sharp. The embroidery work cost \$15.00, and if there is anyone interested you can bring your shirts to the meeting and I will drop them off.

Gary Applebee is working on our new HDFF flyers and the club logo. I hope that we can get some stickers soon.

HDFF is again excited to have club member and author and fishing expert Richard Bean as our guest speaker in June. Richard will be talking about fishing for warm

water species. More information on Richards extensive experience can be found in the Guest Speakers section on our site.

The club will also be holding it's annual yard sale at the June meeting. Please bring fishing items that you think other members could use. We will be selling from 6:00 to 7:00.

Tight Lines!

Paul Sinclair

Largemouth Bass World Records

A look at the International Game Fish Association world record holders for largemouth bass caught on a fly rod, listed in order of tippet/line class followed by fish weight, angler name, where and when it was caught:

2-pound tippet – 8 pounds, Herbert Ratner, Jr., Ligonier, Penn., June 25, 2001

4-pound tippet – 9 pounds, 11 oz., Dennis Ditmars, Lake Dixon, Escondido, Calif., April 26, 1999

6-pound tippet –14 pounds, 2 oz., John Lindsey, Jr., Lake Meredith, Texas, Oct. 20, 2000

8-pound tippet –13 pounds, 9 oz., Ned Sewell, Lake Morena, Calif., April 4, 1984

12-pound tippet –14 pounds, 8 oz., Larry Kurosaki, Castaic Lagoon, Castaic Calif., Feb. 24, 2007

16-pound tippet –12 pounds, 11 oz., Dennis Ditmars, Lake Dixon, Calif., April 30, 1998

20-pound tippet –9 pounds, 5 oz., Dennis Ditmars, Lake Poway, Calif., April 22, 1992

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FLY OF THE MONTH

Red Ribbed Red Squirrel Tail / Hairs Ear,

This Version by John Rose

I came up with this version of a Red Ribbed Squirrel Tail about 8 years ago. The secret in this pattern is that it has to be picked out or brushed out, very well. The color and blending of the hares ear are equally important. You will notice, in the pictures that the fibers are long when picked out. This has to be!

The small red wire and red flashabou have to be wrapped forward at the same time. No weight is needed, because this fly needs freedom to move and breath.

This fly has produced everywhere in the Sierras. I have caught thousands of trout with it. It is my go to fly when times are tough. This fly has produced well for me on Crowley, North Lake, Twin Lakes, Virginal Lakes, Upper and Lower Owns as well as Lundy lake and the East Walker River. I have not found a lake or river where it has not produced.

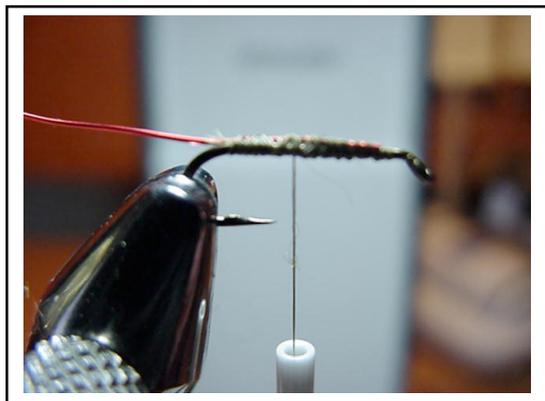
I have at least 60 of these beauties in my fly boxes. If you would ever enter a one fly contest, I would recommend this fly.

Recipe:

- Hook:** 2X Long #16, #14 Wet or Dry Fly hook depending on purpose.
- Thread:** #6 or 8 Olive thread
- Tail:** Red Squirrel Tail, approximately length of hook
- Rib:** Red wire and Red Flashabou

Dubbing: Mixture of Reddish Squirrel Tail and the guard hairs, from a reddish Hares Ear Mask. Be careful not to blend too much, the guard hairs should be left long! Some reddish rabbit fur can be added to make your dubbing easier.

Step 1.: Wrap a thread foundation and position the Squirrel Tail as shown either before or after placing in both pieces of red wire and Red Flashabu. Your preference!



Step 2: Dub in the combination of Red, Hares Ear Mask and Squirrel Tail dubbing. Use a lot of it you'll want to make it heavy, so you will be able to pick or brush out the dubbing as shown in the next photo. Before picking out the dubbing wrap the wire and flashabou about 4 wraps towards the head space and tie off and finish.

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Step 3: Pick out the dubbing with a dubbing needle or use a wire gun brush to pick it out. I prefer the gun cleaning brush myself. The gun brush is much faster. Now just brush it out to look like one of the pictures below and you will be done. If it is not brushed out enough it won't work right!

Invasive Species Should be Your Issue **Leah Elwell**

For many fly anglers, invasive species are old hat. You know about whirling disease in the West, *didymo* in the East and, quack and zebra mussels in the Midwest. This familiarity at times breeds a sort of complacency, when really it needs to spark action. When an infestation of aphids descends on your yard, typically an all out battle ensues. The same vigilance—but perhaps different tactics—is needed when it comes to aquatic invasive species. Regardless of what troublesome aquatic species we're talking about, the mantra is **inspect/clean/dry**. This means inspecting your boots and boats for mud and plants and removing them. Clean your gear with fresh, clean water—the hot, high-pressure water at a car wash works wonders. Finally, dry your gear in the sun. Many—but not all invasives are killed by good old sunshine.



While using it in lakes on several occasions I hooked fish while it was still floating, there for you will note that I included one picture with the fly with a foam post. It works as a dry fly too!!!! If you want to vary it with another way to float the fly, feel free to do so. Whatever you do I don't think you can hurt it. Please keep at least a dozen of these in your boxes, you will not regret it!

Often people ask, “What about bleach or Formula 409 to clean my gear.” Well, the real truth of the matter is that not all invasive species can be killed with one type of chemical. There can be an invasive algae, parasite, snail or plant clinging to your stuff, and with this variety of creatures there is no chemical “silver bullet.” The practice of **inspect/clean/dry** works, and will help reduce the spread and introduction of unwanted invaders.

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Becoming a “clean angler” is akin to recycling. Both require an understanding of the world we live in, and mean that you, as an individual, are an active participant in the process. In the early 1960s, there was an ad campaign that tackled the attitudes and behaviors leading to litter and pollution problems in the U.S. This sparked interest among Americans, and for the most part changed the way we deal with trash---we don’t just pitch it out the window of a moving car any longer. We put garbage in trash receptacles, and bottles, aluminum cans and paper into recycling bins. These simple actions show that we care about the world around us, and when it comes to being a “clean angler,” similarly simple actions can be undertaken to show that we care about our water resources.

If you are not convinced that the simple measures of cleaning your gear are worthwhile, here are a few examples of what can happen when invasive species go awry. The impact of invasive species can affect angling in several different ways--- lost fishing opportunities, changes to aquatic systems, and economic burden.

When an invasive species is introduced to a new location, the invader can take over and dominate the available habitat. Some invaders can cover the surface of a lake completely. Recently a public access site to an Indiana lake was closed following the discovery of invasive species, resulting in lost fishing opportunities.

Invaders can often out compete native species, in many cases creating rivers or lakes that can no longer support game fish. An explosion of invasive species can also change the flow or use of water. On a river in South Dakota where the invasive algae *didymo* has been a problem, not only has there been a loss of fishable brown trout, but irrigation intakes have been clogged with thick mats of this nasty “rock snot.”

It has been estimated that invasive species cause over \$120 billion dollars worth of damage every year. This hefty sum goes toward the cost of controlling and eradi-

cating the roughly 50,000 alien species that have been introduced to the U. S. The annual cost of controlling zebra and quack mussels alone is estimated at \$1 billion.

It is clear that the costs we incur from invasive species are greater than the dollars we spend to control them, particularly if we lose access to our favorite fisheries. All of the waters that we depend on to support our fishing and boating activities are potentially threatened by invasive species that can devastate natural habitats. When you understand that we have everything to lose by doing nothing, doing something as simple as regularly cleaning our gear becomes a no-brainer.

Help be a part of the solution by visiting the Center for Aquatic Nuisance Species at www.stopans.org, or take the Clean Angler pledge at www.cleanangler.org.

Leah Elwell is the Conservation Coordinator for the Federation of Fly Fishers based in Livingston, Montana.

This article appeared in the magazine *Fly Fish America* in October/November 2009.

Learn more about invasives on these sites:

Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers!
USDA National Invasive Species Information Center
Global Invasive Species Database
Invasive Species Task Force
Habitattitude
100th Meridian Initiative
Environmental Protection Agency
Biosecurity New Zealand
Mud Snail Web Page

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FISHING REPORTS

from our web site forum

Bishop Outing

May 18th

James Faulkenberry

Josh, Paul and I made a turnaround trip to fish the Owens on Monday. Jeff was already there. He went up on Sunday and said he did very good at various locations on the North Fork of Bishop creek and the Wild Trout section of the Owens River by Pleasant Valley.

We met up at 4 AM and made the three and a half hour drive to Bishop in under three. (I wasn't driving) We met up with Jeff and had breakfast at Jack's, then headed to the Owen's River below the power plant above Pleasant Valley Reservoir.

I started the day off with a Pheasant Tail nymph and was rewarded with 4 little brown trout. Paul landed some too. Then we moved on down the canyon a half mile or so. Everyone found a place to fish but me. I looked at trail after trail going down to the water and wasn't happy with any of them. I finally found a spot I liked and tied on a Water Cricket, I got in a swap last fall. I waded out a little less than knee deep and started casting. I landed one little brown and a few minutes later had another one on.

My new friend Jeff walked up and sat on the bank to watch and talk. Meanwhile, my upper legs started to get cold, a large stick came floating by, and the water starting changing from clear to brown. Now I'm not the sharpest hook in the fly box, but it didn't take long to figure out either my legs were shrinking or the water was rising. By the time I got out it had risen close to 2 feet. Jeff and I made it back to the road and it wasn't long before the other two guys came along talking about the conditions of the water and the adverse affect it was

having on the fishing.

Needless to say, we picked up and left. We drove down to the C&R Wild Trout area below the reservoir and started over. The flow was up and the water was kind of murky, but we spent several hours walking the river and fishing various holes, riffles and pockets. It sprinkled a little rain and the wind started blowing like crazy. Very few fish were caught in that time by the four of us. I didn't catch any, but did have a few heart jolting tugs. We decided to call it a day at about 3 PM.

The coolest thing about the day, I realized on the drive home, was that although I did get snagged on reeds, grass and bushes and landed a half dozen trout, not one knot slipped, not one fly was lost and not one line broke.

I don't know if I'm getting better, or if the Fly Fishing gods took pity on me because of the rising water incident, but it was the first time in my memory that that has happened. WOO HOO.

Thanks to the guys for taking me along.

JESS RANCH

May 16th

by Fly guy

I fished the bass pond today with Rodney, Steve and Rick. The ponds are about 3 to 4 acres. It's probably roomy enough for 8 to 10 anglers to fish at once. We paid \$20.00 to float tube the pond. They require at least 2 anglers to be on the pond and each must use full waders and a personal flotation devise.

Well, Steve and Rodney got right into the bass using bopper patterns. I didn't have any bass flies so I improvised by using a Chernobyl ant as an indicator with

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a dropper fly. The most productive fly for me was an orange foam backed bead headed partridge hackle Kern Emerger. I figure that the orange must mimick the belly color of the fry from the bluegill we were catching. The pattern I used worked great for the bluegill and pretty good for the bass too.

We started at around eight and I left at around noon. That was plenty of time to catch plenty of fish. I saw Rick from across the lake land a real nice bass. Most of the bass I caught were less than a pound and the bluegill were about the same size. One bluegill I hooked turned me nearly around in my tube. Not bad for a five weight rod. Thanks to the owners of Jess Ranch for the opportunity for a new experience. I would encourage all our members to give it a try.

Trout at Jess Ranch

May 18th

James Faulkenberry

My grandson and I got in a good workout at Jess ranch trout pond Friday. He's thirteen and has been tying his own flies for about 6 months. He caught his first trout on a Elk Hair Caddis he tied. This is the first time he caught a fish on his own fly. He was grinning from ear to ear.

I brought 6 fish to hand and LDRed about 8. The best bug of the day was a flying black ant tied by Cal E Batis of Texas. I got the fly last year in an FAOL fly swap and have been waiting for the right day to use it. We were gearing up at a picnic table and a big ol' flying black ant landed on the table in front of me. I took that as a sign and tied Cal's on. First cast, BAM! About an 18 incher took it.

There's nothing like taking a kid fishing. We both had a good time and enjoyed each other's company

Jess Ranch

May 23rd

SierraAngler

Had a talk with Teresa, the nice Lady at the pay Hut at Jess Ranch. She said because of my Handicap condition it would be nearly impossible for me to get on the Larger lake to Fly Fish. I told her I was thinking of buying a one-man Raft made by Sea Eagle, to try, she said that no-one could sit up out of the water. Maybe, owner Robert would make an exception ?

Anyway, Michael and I did pretty good using dry flies and Nymfs.....Carmen.



FISHING REPORT

Since summer and fishing season is here. I will try to have a Fishing Report every month. We all like to know where to go and what fly works. You guys will need to send the reports to: glapplebee@gmail.com or I will take them off the web site forum as I did this month. Carmen was the only one that had a photo of his catch, so be sure to take pictures of your trophies.

Thanks, Gary Applebee