



*The*

# *Angler's Line*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE TRUCKEE RIVER FLYFISHERS

## August 2008

Hi Fellow flyfishers,

I hope all of you are enjoying the long days of summer and pursuing the wily trout on those days when the smoke from California isn't too bad. As normal, fishing during the dog days of summer has been hit and miss. In early July I spent an evening fishing the Truckee River above Patagonia. There were lots of small tan caddisflies attached to the streamside vegetation, but the river was still too high to do much wading. I have to admit, I got a couple of hits, but ended up with the fin.

July's general meeting was our Truckee River cleanup which was held on July 19th at the TMWA Power Plant in Verdi. My thanks to all of you who took the time to work the river and make this event a success. Wes Ong brought hot dogs donated by his business, Joe Cendagorta stepped up to cook lunch and Mike Sevon arranged the use of the Verdi Power Plant for our picnic. A dozen or so members showed up to pick up garbage in the

### THE MISSION STATEMENT

*We are dedicated to: Improving and promoting the sport of fly fishing in Nevada. Promote and encourage the conservation of game fish, especially wild trout, through the betterment of the streams and lakes everywhere. Encourage and assist our youth to become fly fishers and true sportspersons.*

Power House area and upstream in the Trophy Section.

Two of our club members got a treat on July 23 and 24 in getting involved in a trout salvage project at the Bench Creek Ranch 60 miles east of Fallon. This ranch has two small ponds. The up-

per pond was stocked with 500 pounds of brook trout and trophy rainbow trout earlier this spring. The owner, Paul Plouviez, wanted to move some of these fish to the lower pond after it was completed. Myself and Gary Bonnicci traveled to Fallon where we hooked up with Mike Sevon, Rich Ellington and Tom Atkinson, retired game wardens. We fished the pond during the afternoon and next morning for around 6 hours and managed to only catch 30 fish. We thought maybe most of the fish had been caught out or died. On the morning of the second day, we made 3 net hauls with a big net and took out 200 to 250 pounds of brook trout and trophy rainbow. Those fish must have been dodging our flies while we were fishing. We enjoyed a great dinner at the ranch and came away humbled at our limited fishing success.

Face it. It's the middle of summer and the fish are hating the heat just as much as we are. That brings up the plans for our August Fish out. The board didn't have a quorum at the July meeting and we are still kicking around exactly where we are going for the fish out scheduled on August 23rd and 24th. As things stand right now we are headed for the group campsite at Jackson Meadows Reservoir and will fish Milton Reservoir a short distance below the dam at Jackson Meadows. Last year we had a great time, a great dinner and a beautiful cool reservoir to float around in all day. Hope to see you there and stay tuned to the website for additional details.

Club members should also be aware that Jerry Holtgrave has contacted Ken and Joan at Webber Reservoir to get special rates for club members to have a day on the lake on September 13 for a discounted price of only \$25 each. During the fish out we will have access to the Webber Reservoir picnic facilities for our picnic. Be sure to put this date on your fall calendar. Your pres,

Tillie Arizmendi

#### **NOTE:**

*All meetings are held at the NDOW Headquarters at 1100 Valley Road—unless otherwise noted.*

*General Meetings start at 6:30, BOD meetings start at 6:00*

## **The Angler's Line**

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*Open*

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## **Fish Prospects**

By Wes Ong

**Weather:** Each August I keep thinking it gets hotter or is that my imagination? I don't think that this month is going to be affected by the hot weather as much. We've had so much of it that all the lakes are warm and the fish are deep.

**Truckee River:** The River has been fishing good for over two months and should continue. The pressure has been intense for the last two months also. Look to fish those hard to get to places or the water that everyone passes up. Wind has been a factor in the late evenings and the fish have not been coming up until the last bit of light. Have the Cormorants taken their toll of the plants this year?? If you want to fish the Yellow Sallies dry try early in the morning, the fish still seem to come up for them. A Golden Stone Nymph is a good searching pattern.

**Little Truckee:** I like a dry fly and dropper here, a PMD and a Hunchback Infrequent. Mid-day when everyone else is taking a break I like fishing terrestrials. The water level here has been low for well over six weeks and the fish are getting spooky. I think this water needs a rest but that won't happen.

**Lahontan:** the lake maybe down but the White Bass I hear are still hitting, get there early so you don't have to fish with all the boaters and jet skiers'.

**Stampede:** Last year I fished here a lot off the dam for Smallies and caught all small fish. Prosser I caught a bigger one but that was earlier in the year, it may fish better now. The mouth of Boca always seems to have an evening rise of some type. These small fish are well educated.

**Crater Lake:** I've only fished this once but it is a pretty lake and I'll bet the weather is cool up there. Pitch a small attractor nymph into the shoreline cover and let it sink, then twitch it back. Mostly a put and take fishery. Not to be confused with the one down by 89. This is north of Susanville

**East Walker River:** Flows have been decent here most of July. Great time for terrestrials with a Spent Partridge Caddis dropper, water will get warm by noon. Fish are under the white water where there is the most oxygen. Ph level could deaden the bite.

**Kirman, Virginia, and Twin Lakes:** These are all high country lakes and should still have some good water temps. Check with Don and Liz at the Anglers Edge for current information. They are usually in the shop on Fridays.

**Yellow Creek:** Small catch and release water west of Butt Valley Res. a small attractor dry and a stealth approach will yield one brown out of every hole, unless you can get that one out without spooking the others. Check out Butt Valley on your way out to see if the inflow is running hard?

**Northern & Eastern Nevada Lakes:** Too warm almost everywhere; Wild Horse probably has the deepest water therefore maybe the coolest deep water????



### Wanted Buy or Trade

Sage 9' SP rods, 4 piece, 4 thru 7 weights, mint. 3 have never been fished. \$350.00 each. Sage 11' 8 weight "Switch" rod. Brand new. \$575.00. Abel Super 7 reel plus extra spool. Both spools are size 3S and equipped with lines for the Switch Rod. \$550.00 Contact Dan Boone 323-4179

Are you looking for something or have something to sell? Call Tim Huckaby, 746-3133

### Annual Family Picnic at Webber Lake Ranch

Come one come all to the annual picnic at Webber Lake Ranch on Saturday, September 13th. Ken and Joan, managers at WLR, have invited us to come and use their picnic facilities. There are tall trees with plenty of shade and usually a light breeze. We are also invited to fish this private lake for the day. There will be a \$25.00 fee for everyone that chooses to fish if they are not members of the WLR. This will be a great opportunity to this lake in the fall. More details and will be available before the next newsletter.

We will need some help with cooking and raffles. Please contact Tillie or one of the Board of Directors.

### Grandpa Joe's Shrimp By Tim Huckaby

This year at Diamond Lake, Oregon I did not catch the monster fish I caught last year but I did meet Grandpa Joe. Joe a long time resident of central Oregon and confessed fly fisherman. I enjoyed many hours sitting and talking with Joe about his days on the local rivers and lakes of central Oregon and central Colorado where he grew up.

He told me of the shrimp laden waters of south eastern Oregon where the fish grow big and fast feasting on fresh water shrimp. I said "yeah fishing a scud rich water is pretty incredible..." "No" he said, "not scuds, shrimp." He proceeded to describe this fly.

Light olive and grey (light and dark) chenille is wrapped around a size 6 or 8 hook deep into the bend with

sparse hackle palmered from the end of the body to the beginning of the long head.

Joe says the best way to fish this fly is down deep just off the bottom and retrieved nice and slow. There were only three of his original flies still in existence.

Grandpa Joe's Shrimp	
Hook	Kahle hook Mustad 37160 Eagle L144F Daiichi 1140
Thread	Color to match
Head	Slender thread
Body	Medium chenille
Hackle	Color to match chenille





Eric Petlock, Nevada Outreach Coordinator for Save Our Wild Salmon  
eric@wildsalmon.org

Here in Nevada, most people don't know that we once had robust salmon and steelhead runs in four different rivers. That's right, we had salmon runs in Nevada as recently as the early 1930's. These runs were destroyed when dams built downstream on the Snake River and the Columbia blocked fish passage into Nevada's rivers, effectively cutting us off from the Columbia/Snake basin.

As many you know, California and Southern Oregon have imposed an unprecedented closure on salmon fishing this year, including a severely limited sport fishery, due to low numbers of returning adults salmon in the Sacramento River. Many fishermen from Nevada travel to California during the summer and fall to fish for salmon and steelhead. At this point we don't know how long this closure will last but it's fairly safe to say it will be at least a couple of years. The closure this year in California should be a wake-up call to all fishermen. We have a serious problem and if we don't act soon, it may be too late.

As fisherman, we are on the frontlines of monitoring the health of our rivers and streams. We have a vested interest in maintaining healthy rivers. This also means we need to be active and get involved. Did you know there is work being done right now to bring salmon and steelhead back to Nevada? In recent years, a coalition of individuals and non-governmental organizations, have come together as part of a Columbia/Snake river wide effort to recover salmon runs. At the center of this effort are plans for getting fish passageways built at the three Hells Canyon Dams and the removal of four outdated navigation dams on the lower Snake. This would pave the way for the return of salmon and steelhead into Nevada's river, rivers like the Jarbridge, Bruneau, and Salmon Falls Creek.

Senator Harry Reid has been instrumental in getting this process going. Last year he wrote a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission asking for fish passage at Hells Canyon, as part of the new federal license for Idaho Power to operate these dams. But there is still a lot more work to be done and we need Senator Reid to continue to lead on this. We need to let Sen. Reid know that as fisherman we have a vested interest in maintaining healthy fisheries. Also, as Nevadans we need to have a seat at the table when it comes to salmon and steelhead recovery in the Snake River basin. Recently, Sen. Reid requested that Nevada be added as a stakeholder in the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery act. This would bring dollars to the state of Nevada that would go directly to bringing salmon and steelhead back into the state.

Sen. Reid needs to hear from you on this issue! We need to get letters flowing into his office in Washington DC thanking him for his work, asking him to continue to lead and asking him to introduce legislation that will make it possible for salmon and steelhead to return to Nevada. This is vitally important. Sitting down and taking just a few minutes to write a letter will make a difference. It already has! As a member of Truckee River Fly fishers, please accept a challenge to get 25 letters in to Sen. Reid's office by the end of August. We can do it be it means individuals like you need to sit down and write a letter today. Please log on to the website and download the "Talking Points" memo. It gives you the information you need to write an effective letter. Also there is some important information you can download as well, that gives us more background on the issue. Please write a letter today. Don't put it off, this is too important!

A sample of the talk points for a letter is located on the website under the conservation efforts link.

### Local Supporters—

Support them, they support us!

The Orvis Store—13945 S. Virginia St. # 640  
775-850-2272

The Gilly Fishing Store— 1111 Rock Blvd  
775-358-6113

Reno Fly Shop— 294 E. Moana Lane # 14  
775-825-3474

## Learn to fish Crowley Lake with Chris Wharton

Chris Wharton, Owner of Stillwater Guide Service, will be hosting his annual Crowley Lake Clinics on July 16th and September 11th, 2008. Chris grew up on this premier fishery in the Mammoth Lakes area. He quotes "These are the hardest pulling 16"-22" Rainbows, Browns & Cutts I have fought anywhere"! Participants from our area fly fishing clubs who attended the clinic last year can definitely vouch for this! If it's been awhile since you've seen your backing, you might want to sign up for this one!

There will be a instructional evening at Chris Wharton's home the week prior to each clinic so no time will be lost on the water. Covered items will include Midge, Damsel and Perch Fry patterns and presentations, as well as discussion on rigging up lines, leaders and equipment. Because Crowley is such a large body of water, Chris will break it down into sections for discussion purposes, and maps will be provided. This is a great 2-day trip as camping is right on the lake! Participants may stay and fish on their own after the clinic.

Cost for the Clinic will be \$130.00 and includes one day of fishing, snacks and drinks. Each participant will need a valid California fishing license. Sign up is on a first-come basis.

If interested, you may contact Chris at (775) 851-1558 or email him at [chris@out4trout.com](mailto:chris@out4trout.com).

A-BUNCH-A-CRUNCH by Bud J. (reprint from August 2006, snail season is just around the corner)

They prefer alkaline lakes and slow weedy streams and spend a great deal of time foraging among the stems and stalks of plants consuming algae and decaying veggies. Many times they attach themselves to these plant stalks where trout can pick them off. Observant lake fishers have noted these beasties making sudden rises during spells of hot weather and then they hang up against the surface film and are propelled by the breeze. When disturbed, they can descend like an express elevator.

Many fly fishers are mystified as trout are seen making smooth head and tail rises. The usually broken surface on hot and breezy days hides these critters from all but the most careful observer. The drab olive, gray, tan and brown shells help to disguise these fishy escargot.

*Entomologists named them *Mullusca Gastropoda*. We fly fishers know them as Snails.*

You can create a reasonable pattern for these floaters by wrapping a thin strip of closed-cell foam spiraled forward and enlarging as you go toward the eye. Tie off and cover with Peacock Herl or with similar colored Crystal Chenille. Then finish with three wraps of brown hackle.

Another pattern has a copper-ribbed body and a flap of tan or gray closed-cell foam bulging out over the eye. This represents the snail's "foot" as it hangs with this foot clinging to the surface.

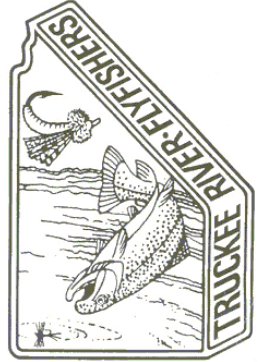
For both these patterns, cast them out down and across the current letting them drift, then adding an occasional twitch. Long casts are not very productive as these patterns sit low and are very hard to keep sight of. Some type of small but colorful indicator attached to the leader a short ways up from the snail will help you detect strikes.

Since no one has come up with a pattern imitating a snail clinging to a plant stalk, let's build a fat herl body leaving out the foam, then add two or three turns of brown hackle fore and aft. Now cast this in and around the shore weeds and stalks, count it down, then begin a retrieve of slow strips with pauses. This should do the trick.




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Truckee River Flyfishers  
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Reno, NV 89512



# August 2008

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