

Tale Waters

August 2008



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Website: www.MVFF.org

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Membership Meeting

There will be no general membership meeting in August as the club takes its customary summer break. Most members are busy doing other things and hopefully many of them have gone fishing. Our next general activity will be in September."

Executive Board Meeting

Monday, 25 August

The MVFF Executive Board will meet on Monday 25 August at 7:00 PM at the New Mexico Game and Fish conference room. All members are welcome to attend.

Liars and Tyers

There will be no Liars and Tyers meeting in August as the club takes its customary summer break. Most members are busy doing other things and hopefully many of them have gone fishing. Our next meeting will be in September.



President's Corner

Editor's Note: Our intrepid president is making his way along many of the salmon streams of Alaska this month and was not available for his usual column. He will be back next month with a myriad of fish tales from the north land, some of which may even be true.

Project Healing Waters

Tom Wobbe

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing is Fly-fishing therapy for wounded vets. Regardless of how you may feel about the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, it seemed to me to be an opportunity to support the troops.

Four members of MVFF, Chris Evey, Randall Vallee, Jim Hulsey and myself made the trip to Ft. Bliss today (10 July) to conduct a fly tying class for a group of young men. Chris Evey and Randall Vallee have been working tirelessly to put this program together and seek the contribution of vises and supplies from Sportsman's Warehouse.

I must say that I personally was apprehensive about doing this program even though I could see the need. I had several projects I was working on around the house, that seem to be taking some of my time. This morning when it was raining at 6:00 AM I questioned, do I really want to go to El Paso today? However, after participating today I found that I was personally rewarded with the self-satisfaction of helping this group of 18-19 men who attended today's session. They were very appreciative and they had the patience to persist and complete a usable fly. Remember when you tied your first fly?

Some of you may have seen the article about Project Healing Waters in the May 2008 Fly Fisherman

magazine. Take a look at the web site www.projecthealingwaters.org for information about the program.

I would really like to urge you to volunteer to help with this program as we plan to have another fly tying class, along with knots, fly rod/reel basics and casting on the parade grounds. We really can use additional volunteers and I promise you will have personal self satisfaction in helping these young men in recovery. So even those members who are not fly tyers can help out. Our next session is tentatively set for August 14.

Attention Women Anglers!

Helen Zagona

I know you are out there! Are you looking for a better fishing experience? Is the San Juan River Combat Zone getting just a little old? Are you tired of trekking for miles and miles only to find the fishing is slim pickin's? Are you loving fishing, but tired of "roughing it" at the end of the day? Would you enjoy a glass of fine wine and a world class dinner, without having to cook it yourself? How about a chance to meet new friends to share the fun, the sport and the relaxation?

Have I discovered the place for you! I recently returned from a week at Western Women In Waders Flyfishing Retreat and School at Colorado's beautiful 4UR Ranch. Here is just the answer for women who love the sport----and also women who would love to learn the sport. The location is a guest ranch located on Goose Creek at the point of confluence with the Rio Grande River in Southern Colorado. The ranch has seven miles of private fishing waters on both sides of Goose Creek and also Rio Grande access. The scenery is striking with snow capped mountains and high meadows covered with wildflowers. The 4UR Ranch features luxury accommodations: your own private room with bath, hot springs spa, horse back riding and the best fine dining in this part of Colorado. The ranch is surrounded by the Rio Grande National forest and is only seven miles from the fun old mining town of Creede.

Western Women In Waders is a program which includes a fishing retreat for women and a fly fishing school for women. You can choose the amount of instruction and guidance that fits your own abilities

and interests. Are you looking for a challenging fishing get-away, or a place to learn better casting, fly selection and knot tying? This program offers both. And at the same time, meet others with your interests with whom to share the fun. Instruction is given by Karen Denison and Jan Crawford, both well known fly fishing guides with certification as casting instructors by Federation of Fly Fishers.



I have invited Karen to our meeting on November 10th to share in presentation of a program on the Western Women in Waders Fly Fishing Week at the 4UR Ranch. Please join us for an evening of beautiful photos and fun adventures.

Rio Peñasco Fishing Permits

The Board has recently held discussions on the procedures to be followed when fishing the Rio Peñasco lease. One slight change is to ask that instead of carrying the bottom portion of the permit on their person each fisherman place them on the dashboard of their vehicle so as to be visible through the windshield. Since it may be hard to read the name on the permit the club is issuing new parking passes which will also be placed on the dashboard and should be quite legible. This will allow the ranch manager to see who is on the stream if he didn't see them arrive and will also allow other MVFF members to see who else is fishing in case they want to hunt them down and inquire as to the hot fly of the day. Of course everyone should continue to wear their name tags.

Since the dashboard passes are new, many members do not have them although we have been sending them to new members along with their name tags. If you fish the lease and don't have one just drop an

email to permits@mvff.org and one will be sent to you.

Annual Club Picnic

The annual picnic will be held on 13 September at Preciado Park at NMSU. This is the same as last year and the picnic will be conducted essentially the same. Look for additional details in the September newsletter and on the MVFF web site..

Club Outings Planned

The annual trip to the San Juan is planned for 17-19 October. Details such as guides are yet to be determined.

A club trip(s) to Kodiak, Alaska is in the planning stages. This trip will take place in late September. If you are interested, contact Bob Silver.

The board is now discussing possible outings for 2008 and would welcome suggestions from members. Where do you want to go? Let us know. If you have comments or suggestions for additional trips pass them to George Sanders, (575) 527-5536, who has volunteered to chair the "Outings" committee.

Welcome New Members

Sam & Mary Ann Alvarado	Las Cruces, NM
Robert & Mary Bettes	El Paso, TX
Mary Haynes	El Paso, TX
Ann & Michael Hooser	Alamogordo, NM
Ryan Maxfield	El Paso, TX
Michael & Megan Miller	Las Cruces, NM
Steve Phelps	Las Cruces, NM



Testing the Waters

Fish and Game project shows king salmon returning to road system streams

Article published on Tuesday, July 8th, 2008

By ERIK WANDER, Kodiak Mirror Writer

It takes time to produce an enhanced return of king salmon, but eventually anglers will enjoy more diverse sport fishing opportunities on the Kodiak road system. The king salmon enhancement project, started by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in 2000, aims to dramatically increase the number of adult king salmon in the area.

Len Schwarz, a sport fish area biologist with Fish and Game, said the project involves holding and feeding king smolt, raised from local brood stock, for two weeks before releasing them so they know where to return as adults. Schwarz said after the smolt are released they travel to sea, where they rear and grow for one to five years before returning as adult king salmon. Approximately 75 percent of the fish released stay at sea for three to four years before returning as adults. An average of about 1.5 percent of the smolt released will survive and return.

Schwarz's enthusiasm for the project is evident. "It's the funnest thing I've been involved in my 32 years here," he said. "We're trying to create fishing opportunities for people in Kodiak."

Since the inception of the project, the number of smolt released has risen each year from an initial release of 11,000, Schwarz said. This year, Fish and Game plans to release approximately 148,000 king smolt: 44,000 in the American River, 44,000 in the Olds River and 60,000 in Monashka Creek. Schwarz said that he expects as many as 2,000 king salmon to return annually by 2011. "And people will catch them. It'll be fun. You're going to get a lot of fish," Schwarz said, adding that the salmon return larger than expected. "Fish that have been at sea for four years are coming back at 25 pounds," he said. "It's a lot bigger." All of the returning fish are intended for harvest, with the exception of 60 spawning pairs used as hatchery brood stock, Schwarz said.

Fish and Game currently has an annual operating budget of \$66,400 for the enhancement project, all of which is generated by the sale of sport fishing licenses and king salmon stamps. "When you get your sport fishing license, what do you get back?" Schwarz said. "We try to create opportunities in Kodiak."

MVFF Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 14, 2008

The MVFF Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the NMDG&F conference room by Tom Wobbe presiding in the absence of Paul Turner.

In Attendance: Tom Wobbe, Jim Hulsey, Ron Bellerose, Randall and Vicki Vallee, Jeff Arterburn, George Sanders, Richard Keding, Donna Mabie, Blaine Goss, Gary Mann and Richard Newton. Absent: Paul Turner and Robert Silver.

1. Minutes of the June Board Meeting were approved as published in the July newsletter.
2. The Treasurer's Report given by Gary Mann was approved.
3. Tom Wobbe reported that 152 club members have paid their dues through March of 2009. Thirty-one of the members are from out of town. Twenty-two members have not paid and will be dropped from the records soon.
4. Dashboard cards are ready and their use will be explained in the August newsletter.
5. Randall Vallee discussed the Healing Waters flytying session held on July 10th at Ft. Bliss. Jim Hulsey and Tom Wobbe were the only volunteers. The participants were divided into two groups totaling 19 of the 26 expected. The flytying lessons went quite well and positive responses were given by the tyers. Since the students had never flyfished, the lessons were kept quite

simple. For the next session the students will go in a van provided by the military to a nearby fishing spot to learn casting. Randall will check on the exact date, now tentatively set for 14 August. He said that at least six club volunteers are needed to help.

6. Sportsman's Warehouse is still working on the details in getting Lefty Kreh for an all day workshop. Corporate approval is needed and further information should be forthcoming soon.
7. Tom Wobbe will check into sending about 75 solicitations for raffle prize donations.
8. The *Women in Sports* project in El Paso has had no positive responses or action taken.
9. The club is still searching for guides for the members at the San Juan River outing in October. John Tavenner is trying to arrange guides for the outing.
10. Four signs, about 18" X 22", will be posted in the coming weeks along the leased waters. These signs will caution people that club permits and MVFF membership are required to fish these waters.
11. George Sanders mentioned that the Green and Gunnison Rivers had five to 10 times higher flows than usual.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Fishing Reports

Blaine Goss and Dick Newton fished the lease on 25 July which was after the big flood that was experienced in early July. They confined all of their fishing to the lower stretches of the stream, i.e. the parts above and below the lower bridge. They caught numerous fish, the largest being 16-inches and several 14-inchers. The patterns of choice were terrestrials, especially grasshopper patterns.

The high water in early July rendered the lower bridge unusable and washed out the water diversion gate below the bridge so all of the water is now staying in

the stream. It also cleaned out much of the grass that was clogging many stretches of the stream.

Blaine reported the stream to be somewhat murky but quite fishable.

Its nice to know that the fish are still there in spite of the earlier floods. If you haven't fished the lease this summer, now is the time to go.

Quick Look Contact Information

2008 Officers of the Club	
Officers	
• President	Paul Turner (575) 523-6880
• V-Pres.	Jeff Arterburn (575) 524-0773
• Secretary	Donna Mabie (575) 522-3810
• Treasurer	Gary Mann (575) 521-7793
Board Members	
• Position 1	Blaine Goss (575) 522-1981
• Position 2	Randall Vallee (575) 373-9470
• Position 3	Tom Wobbe (575) 522-5437
• Position 4	Bob Silver (575) 522-6325
• Position 5	George Sanders (575) 527-5536
Newsletter & Web Page Editor	
• Jim Hulsey (575) 524-1880	newsletter@mvff.org

Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund	\$10,777
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Norm Mabie Scholarship Fund

The Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund is an endowed fund at New Mexico State University which is funded by MVFF member donations. Earnings from the fund are used to provide scholarships for students at NMSU majoring in fisheries or related fields.

The recipient of each scholarship is determined each April by the MVFF Board with the award being made for the fall semester.

Even though the fund is endowed additions can be made to it at any time. The larger the fund, the more earnings are available for award. If you are interested in contributing please make checks out to the **NMSU Foundation** and on the "for" line of the check, identify "Norm Mabie Memorial Scholarship Fund for deposit only." All contributions are tax deductible. For any questions please contact one of the Officers or Board members. If you have not made a donation to the fund please give consideration and help honor Norm.

Bamboo Rod Repair

Club member Karen Erickson is interested in working on old bamboo rods. If you have one that needs repairs give Karen a call at (575) 524-7729.

Current Email Addresses Needed

Many of the email addresses in our files are not current as members change to other internet providers. These addresses will not be distributed, but will only be used to relay club information or reminders for club meetings and other club events. Please send your address changes to membership@mvff.org.

Angler's Nook

Donna's Shop is open as usual. Please contact her at (575) 522-3810 for your fishing and tying supplies. She also has membership information and fishing permits.

Club members receive a 33% discount on most items at the Angler's Nook.
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Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout Print

Help support the MVFF Habitat Restoration Projects and purchase a limited edition "Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout" print. This beautiful printing of an original watercolor of our native state fish is a limited series of 150 high quality 12 x 18 prints that are numbered and signed by New Mexico artist Michelle Arterburn. The cost of each individual print is \$25.00, with the proceeds dedicated towards habitat restoration projects. See the MVFF website for purchase.



RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - DUE MARCH 31

And don't forget to renew your NM fishing license
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Membership Information

Membership is open to anyone who supports the activities of the club. Membership fees are shown below. Members are provided with the opportunity to attend informational monthly meetings, purchase fishing access permits to the MVFF leased waters on the Rio Peñasco, and participate in other Club activities such as a summer picnic, annual awards banquet, casting clinics, fly tying classes, and Club sponsored fishing trips.

There are several options for the payment of dues. A family is defined as a club member, their spouse and all children 17 years of age or under.

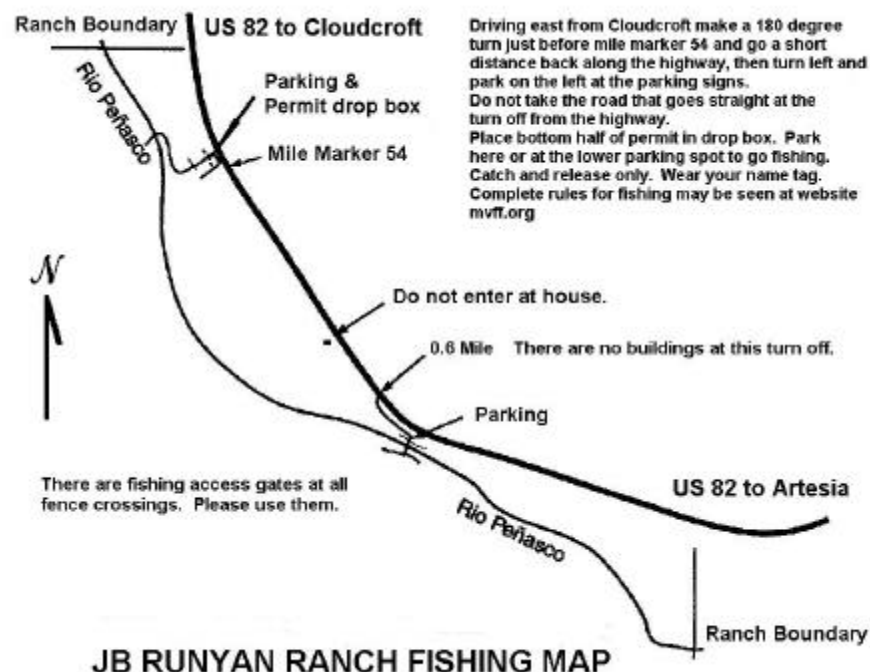
1 Year	\$20	Individual
	\$25	Family
3 Years	\$50	Individual
	\$60	Family
Life	\$400	Individual
	\$500	Family

Lease Information

Permits to fish the Club leased waters on the Rio Peñasco can be obtained from any of the Club Officers or Board Members and are also available at the *Angler's Nook* (575-522-3810) in Las Cruces and the ATF fly shop in El Paso (915-225-0570.) Permits can be obtained from the land owner, but you should phone (575-687-3362) the night before to ensure someone will be there to sell them to you. Permits can be ordered through the club web page (mvff.org) by filling out the form and mailing as directed. Cost is \$25.00 per day. Kids under 18 fish free but must be accompanied by an adult club member with a permit. You must be a current member of MVFF to fish the lease. Please wear your MVFF identification badge while on the property. New or replacement badges can be obtained by contacting Jim Hulsey. In addition, members can purchase a one-day, one-time permit for out of town guests.

Directions to the Lease:

Follow NM 82 east from Cloudcroft, NM or west from Artesia, NM. The turn off to the lease is located on the right side of the road about 100 yards before mile marker 54 coming from Cloudcroft or 100 yards on the left past mile marker 54 coming from Artesia.



MESILLA VALLEY FLYFISHERS, INC.

PO Box 2222

Las Cruces, NM 88004-2222

Membership and/or Permit Application

(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____ email: _____

Are you a current member? ____ Yes ____ No

Do you need a name badge? ____ Yes ____ No

New Membership _____ or renewal _____?

Membership Categories: Individual Family Circle the one desired.

1 Year \$20 \$25

3 Years \$50 \$60

Life \$400 \$500

For family membership: Name of spouse _____ No. of children _____

Note: All memberships expire on 31 March. New memberships received on or after 1 January will expire on 31 March of the following year.

_____ Membership fee if applicable \$ _____

_____ Adult Permits @ \$25 per permit = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

Send remittance with this form to the address shown at top of page.