



The Flypaper

March 2013 Edition

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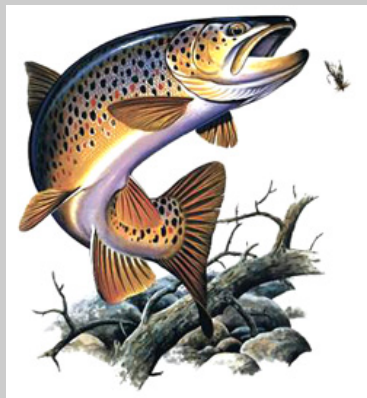
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Faith and begorrah lads and lassies,

Truly, you will be wanting to join with us this Saturday for some fine merrymen and marching.

Put on your finest fishing attire, add a notably bright spot of green and help us celebrate our friendship with The City of Fort Collins Natural Areas by marching in this Saturday's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Jump down a bit to Upcoming Events and get in touch with Dave Piske to take part in this first of many to come St. Patrick celebrations with Rocky Mountain Flycasters. Fun, fun, fun!!!

What a great start to the spring season! It's time to start shaking off the winter blues (if there is such a thing in Colorado) and get ready for another super season of conservation activities and fishing fun. As always we are in the thick of it when it comes to being an active participant in our community.

You can start with the parade on Saturday. Then slip by St. Pete's for some preparty fun before the Fly Fishing Film Tour at the Lincoln Center. This year TU is providing free one year womens membership in conjunction with the Film Tour. A great opportunity indeed!!

We are about to kick off the project season with numerous projects including much needed post-fire restoration efforts. Let me take this opportunity to again remind everyone that the fires last summer caused a major ecological challenge to the Poudre Watershed. The fire and smoke is gone but the damage remains and it is easily forgotten. We now have two choices - we can do nothing and pay a long steep price for that lack of effort, or we can join together to minimize both the duration and cost of the recovery. This recovery process goes much deeper than the Poudre River fishery. This recovery is about being a responsible member of the Poudre River Community. We face some severe water issues that will impact the fishery and the quality and cost of that water that comes out of our taps. We can all do our part by participating in the various volunteer restoration projects that are upcoming. We will be going on-line in the very near future with a calendar of events so keep your eye open for those.

I want to extend a huge thank you to all of the fly tiers that attended the Expo last month. Your presence made for a very succesful event and your talents are a big part of that success. I also want to recognize all of the vendors for their donations and support of the event. Your particiapation made the evening enjoyable and fun. Kudo's to all of the RMF members for their help in organizing the evening and a special tip of the hat to Lee Evans for coordinating the whole program. We look forward to an even better event next year!

On with Spring!

[Dick Jefferies](#), President
Rocky Mountain Flycasters

"Truly it is said that the outside of a mountain is good for the inside of man.

George Wherry

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

[Program Director](#)

March Program

Steve Schweitzer
Wednesday, March 20th
6:30 pm

Steve has been, and continues to be, a noteworthy contributor to both the fly fishing and conservation world. His experiences over two decades include professional stints at Whiting Farms as VP of Sales and Marketing, and Steve is a co-founder of [globalflyfisher.com](#). Steve also includes in his already impressive resume; Lee Wulff TU Chapter Past President, noted fly tier and author. His fly patterns have been included in books by Chris Mann, John Shewey, FFF Masters, Rick Takahashi and others. Youtube now catalogs several informative tying videos by Steve. Steve's articles have appeared in the publications *Fly Fisherman Magazine*, *Angling Trade*, *Trout*, *Wall Street Journal* and a myriad of other regional angling and online publications.

Locally, Steve may be best known for his book 'A Fly Fishing Guide to Rocky Mountain National Park'. Join us Wednesday the 20th as Steve gives us his advance look at 'Fly Fishing The Indian Peaks Wilderness Area', his newest release, co-authored with Mike Kruse. If this next literary journey through another part of our magnificent Front Range fisheries is anything like the one he took us on through the Park, we will all enjoy the ride. One can already see the soon to be dog-eared books on dashboards.

Guest Tyer -

Jake Ruthven knocking out some 'go to' patterns fo fishing mountain terrain. Tink of them as pattens with some altitude attitude!!

Fort Collins Senior Center
6:30 - 9:00 pm
1200 Raintree Drive, 80526
[Senior Center Map](#)

Coming Attractions

Todd Hosman - April 17th

Fishing Guide and author. His 'Fly Fishing Colorado's Front Range Angler's Guide' should be in everyone's fishing vehicle.

Featuring Jin Choi at the tyer's bench

Steve Henderson - May 15th

Owner of Henderson Fly Fishing, Steve will share insights about fishing the Yampa Valley and it's truly spectacular waters.

Q and T (questions and tie) with Ben Zomer at the bench

Kerry Carahar - September 18th

Encampment River - Wade and Float Fishing

Adam Omernick - October 16th

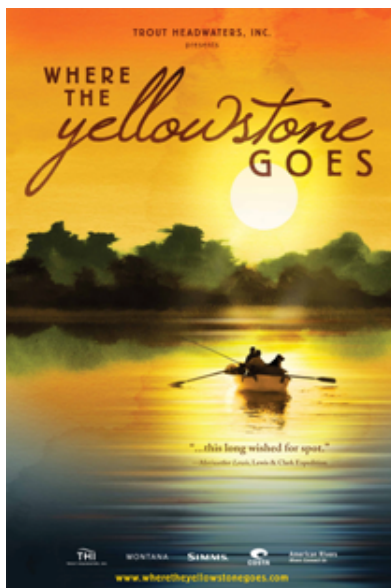
Owner of NOCO Fly Fishing.com presents an evening of Tenkara

Upcoming Events

March 16th - Join with other RMF members and march in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in recognition of our collaborative efforts with Fort Collins Natural Areas. Contact: [Dave Piske](#) for more info.

March 16th - Fly Fishing Film Tour Pre-party at St. Pete's Fly Shop, 5:00pm. Beer and snacks before the show at the Lincoln Center.

March 16th - Fly fishing Film Tour at the Lincoln Center. Tickets available online at the Lincoln Center or St. Pete's (cash only).



RMF ANNUAL MEETING

JOIN THE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP TEAM

When Rocky Mountain Flycasters meets for it's May monthly meeting we will no longer have anybody on our Board of Trustees, because their one-year terms will have expired. Your action is needed to fill the open positions so our chapter can continue to operate.

Act now to volunteer, or to suggest the name of a member, and help ensure that your chapter has leaders to help plan its direction and activities. The nominating committee will talk with each suggested member to explore his/her interests for the various open elective positions listed on the chart below. Except for the Treasurer, elective positions do not require special knowledge or skills, just a sincere interest to ensure that our chapter continues to thrive and improve. In addition to the Board, our Leadership Council also needs volunteers. These appointive committee chairs and members help the Board plan and execute the projects and activities that make our chapter successful.



New chapter members are also encouraged to volunteer and become a part of RMF's leadership team, if not as a chairperson then as part of one of the committees, because your new ideas are important to expand the thinking during discussions as we attempt to keep things interesting...plus, it's a great way to make new friends and enrich your chapter experience.

| Board of Trustees (Elective) | **Leadership Council (Appointive) |
|---|--|
| President | Communications i.e., Newsletter & Website, etc. |
| Vice President | Membership |
| Secretary | General Meetings Programs |
| Treasurer | Financial Development |
| Trustee | Resource Management Projects |
| Trustee | Adult & Youth Education |
| -- | Social & Fishing Activities |
| -- | **Broad areas, with multiple programs, projects & activities under each |

Please contact one of the following to discuss your interest, or to recommend another member who you believe can make a team contribution. The nominations must be finalized by early April.

Dennis Cook rkymtnangler@Q.com 970-372-9229

Dick Jefferies djefferies@Q.com

Bob Streeter bstreeter@Q.com

ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

Let's Go Fishing

[Mark Miller](#) , Coordinator
970-744-8229

Flaming Gorge on the Green River, Utah March 21-24



Care for another day in Paradise?

Thursday morning, March 21st, five eager RMF anglers will be departing for this fly fishing paradise, each dreaming of the feisty rainbow or muscular brown he'll get to play and reel in someplace along the Green's 7-8 mile long "A" Section. A wading excursion is planned, but don't be surprised if a couple of us just have to also drift a bit.

The Green is one of those places that belongs on the bucket list of every fly fisher. You have to fish this river, and hopefully many times in your life. It's picturesque, pine enshrouded shores, emerald green water and more trout per mile than anyone could believe offer high promise for the "fish of a lifetime"; it's a bit like fishing in an aquarium!

Both great wade fishing and float fishing greet anglers on this grand tailwater running through a spectacular red rock canyon. Keep an eye out for desert bighorns as you fish, or maybe you'll even see some of the river otters and osprey that call this wonderful scene home.

C'mon! There's still time to add your name and join the gang a week from Thursday.

Contact: [Dennis Cook](#) 970-372-9229

2013 Fishing Trips

Sign up for trips at our monthly meetings, or by email or phone. How better to ensure you get in all those fishing days you want, than to start planning them now. And who better to fish with than RMF friends, both old and new. So take a look below and "get started"!

Glad to report that we have 76 members signed up for the various trips - which is great! We closed sign-ups for the Delaney Buttes trip as we have reached the max of 20 people. We don't really have a max number figured out for most trips, but you may want to sign up early to make sure you get on the trips of your choice. And if you do have to cancel, please send me an email to let me know.

2013 RMF FISHING TRIPS

March 21-24

Green River, Utah
'Catch of a Lifetime'

Host: Guy Turenne

April 13

RMNP (Meadow Streams)
'Small but Mighty'

Host: Dennis Cook

| | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------|
| May 24-26 | South Platte (Dream Stream & 11-Mile Canyon) 'Fish, Fish, Fish' | Host: Dennis Cook |
| FULL | Delaney Buttes Lake 'Monster Trout' | Host: Frank Cada |
| June 30 | Gore Canyon 'Salmonfly Hatch' | Host: Adam Omernick |
| July 13 | RMNP (Colorado River Headwaters) 'Bravo Brookies' | Host: Dennis Cook |
| August 17 | Poudre (Upper Canyon) 'Wild Trout & Whities' | Host: Dennis Cook |
| September 7 | RMNP (Dream Lake) 'Cutthroat Crazies' | Host: Mark Miller |
| September 28 | Poudre (Big South) 'Grand Slam' | Host: Stan Woodring |
| October 19 | Colorado River (Main Stem) 'Trout Pot Pourri' | Host: Dennis Cook |
| November 9 | Big Thompson (Canyon) 'Bows-Brownies Bash' | Host: Dennis Cook |

**Here is a short description of the next few trips to help
you know what to expect:**

RMNP Meadow Streams: another uniquely Colorado experience - gorgeous, wild fish in a world class setting. Don't forget the camera. And don't get between a bull elk and his harem! Weather suggests this spring could bring some accelerated early hatches.

South Platte Dream Stream & Eleven Mile Reservoir: true Colorado gems. Can be tough and technical fishing. Most of us have been skunked there at one time or another, but many have also caught the fish of a lifetime in the South Platte. Option also to hit the Eleven Mile Canyon, a world class tailwater.

Delaney Buttes (3 sage brush, high plains lakes): a unique (and sometimes windy) high plains experience in North Park, near Walden, CO. Fish chironomids, damsel nymphs, and streamers for large trout. Can wade fish, but it is much better from a boat or float tube/pontoon.

Gore Canyon: on the Colorado River not far downstream from Kremmling. Wading can be challenging sometimes with high waters. Haven't seen your backing in awhile? Then fish this stretch of the Colorado River with strong, fast bows and browns.

You'll see Dennis' name on a lot of these trips, but he can't host them all. If you have been to one of these areas once or twice, you are qualified to be a host! We just need someone to set up a meeting time and place, some car pooling, and keep us from getting lost. It's that simple!

Contact: Mark Miller at flytyer.miller@gmail.com or 970-744-8229 (cell). Or sign up at our monthly meeting, where we will circulate a clipboard for all to see.

CONSERVATION NEWS

[Dave Piske](#), Conservation Chair

Volunteer Coordinator Needed for Gateway Natural Area Conservation Project

One of the most productive and satisfying of conservation projects conducted by Rocky Mountain Flycasters is the Gateway Adopt-a-Trail arrangement with the Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. This is the third year the project has been active. It consists of two weekend days each year, normally Saturdays, during which a volunteer crew of about a dozen RMF members restores and improves the two hiking trails overlooking the Poudre River at its confluence with the North Fork. The canyon-in-the-mountains setting is stunning for its beauty and wildlife. The combination of only a short drive from Fort Collins; just a half-day of moderately physical work; a free lunch; and an afternoon free for fishing makes these projects simply refreshing. Plus, the enhanced friendships that grow among the Volunteers and the Natural Areas professionals who plan and supervise the work add up to a memorable day of contributing to other folks' enjoyment of the Gateway Natural Area.

The workdays are planned and supervised by employees of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department. All tools, project materials, and training in techniques for safe use are provided by these friendly professionals. They also open each workday with an orientation on the history of the area and the wildlife that inhabits it.

An RMF member (or two) fills the indispensable, but relatively easy role of Volunteer Coordinator. The Coordinator's functions include:

- Participation in scheduling and planning the two project days,
- Recruiting RMF volunteers,
- Arranging car pooling on the project days,
- Providing vittles and non-alcoholic beverages for lunch, using funds available from RMF's Treasurer,
- Reporting volunteer hours to the Natural Areas staff.

The Volunteer Coordinators for the previous two years were Terry and Scott Gardner. They had a ball in that role. Reluctantly, they had to relocate their home to another state due to a change in employment. That is the origin of a need for a new Volunteer Coordinator.

This years' project schedule will be established on March 12, so a new Coordinator identified by that time may participate in scheduling and become acquainted with the Natural Areas people involved.

Contact [Dave Piske](#) right away if you are interested in stepping into the role of Volunteer Coordinator for the Gateway project.

Protect the Poudre Fishery With High Park Post-Fire Ecological Restoration Projects

Rocky Mountain Flycasters is one of the organizing members of the High Park Restoration Coalition whose mission is to conduct ecological restoration in areas that were severely burned during the wildfire last year.

The "boots on the ground" restoration projects, and trainings for those projects, are conducted by our Coalition partner, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers. RMF members are urged to participate in these projects and more RMF volunteers are always needed.

To see the specific projects and learn how to register as a volunteer, simply click the following link:

[Restoration Project Info](#)

YOUTH NEWS

[Dennis Cook](#), Youth Outreach Chair

Trout In Classroom (TIC)

[Dennis Cook](#) , Coordinator



FRCC Instructor Heather Dannahower prepares to mount egg-hatching basket in the tank.

Since the last newsletter when we announced our new TIC project at FRCC, things have been happening as expected. The eyed eggs delivery was received on January 16th from the Washington State commercial hatchery. We ordered 200 and the shipping invoice stated 1000 were included...but we could easily see that more than 4000 were actually shipped. Heather and her student intern counted out 200 eggs and placed them in the basket shown in the photo above, and the basket was attached on the edge of the tank so the eggs were all submerged in a location that received enough water circulation to keep them oxygenated without physically disturbing them. The tank was completely darkened with Styrofoam panels and the waiting began, with water chemistry sampling conducted daily by the intern and temperature maintained at about 52 degrees. In the wild only about 1-2% of eggs survive to spawning age.

Between January 22-25 all of the sac fry (officially named "alevins") hatched successfully, and after two days observing to remove any that might die (none did!), on January 27th they were released and immediately swam down to hide under the gravel substrate, feeding off their yolk sac "lunch bag" of nutritional food. On February 7th the first "swim-up fry" emerged from the gravel but died immediately...possibly of loneliness? Late the next day, a Friday, we estimate close to 100 swim-up fry (each about 1/2" long) had emerged. Several were swimming at the water surface seeking food, and several more in the bottom 1/2 of the water column, and the rest were hanging out near the gravel surface consuming their remaining sac nutrients, many with their heads buried in the gravel. We agreed to wait over the weekend to allow the remainder of the fry to emerge, and then begin feeding them.

When a swim-up fry begins to search for food and will begin to develop dark vertical parr marks along its sides, and becomes referred to as a "fry parr". During this period, non-feeding fish called "pinheads" (large heads/small bodies) will be noticed; these may experience a mortality spike and should be removed from the tank before they

die. After learning to feed, surviving fish become referred to simply as "fry" until they exceed 1" length after which they are called "fingerlings".

Now begins a delicate period while the fish are so small. Temperatures and water quality parameters must be closely monitored and maintained. Fish must not be overfed (a common cause of deaths) and the tank nitrogen cycle must be carefully maintained. During the "Nitrogen Cycle" 4-6 week phase, the biological process converts toxic ammonia and nitrites (caused by trout waste and uneaten food) into relatively harmless nitrate compounds. Potentially fatal "spikes" of ammonia and nitrites become common and must be immediately remedied. These processes are monitored and balanced by the students as they learn about good riparian ecology and that it is important for good water quality...and also recognize that trout are one of many indicator species of good or poor water quality.

Children's Water Festivals - Volunteers Needed

[Jerry Pelis](#), Coordinator

All events are from 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. and if you enjoy interacting with kids, this is the place for you! The age group is third grade, fourth grade, or fifth grade, depending on which grade level a particular school presents their state mandated water study unit. Our interactive program involves all students in each class as they are assigned an identity of an aquatic insect, a trout, or a predator and then, with considerable guidance and direction from us, act out their given roles in the dynamic stream environment. It is uncertain who has more fun, students or Rocky Mountain Flycaster mentors. We have only 20 minutes to make our presentation so it is very fast paced with students in constant motion amid numerous giggles. I generally give the presentation, although anyone is free to give it a try. Several other Rocky Mountain Flycasters are needed to herd children, pass out identity neck tags, distribute take home information, take photographs, talk to small groups of kids to explain the role of their respective species, and help set up and take down the props. If you can spare the time, a day at a Children's Water Festival will provide many days of smiles. Please contact me, [Jerry Pelis](#), if you can help.

| | | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| April 24th | Greeley | at Island Grove Park | 4th graders, ages 9 & 10 |
| May 9th | Loveland | Good Shepard Church | 3rd or 4th grade, TBD |
| May 15th | Fort Collins | Front Range Comm. College | 3rd graders, ages 8 & 9 |



Youth Day Camp

[Adam Omernick](#) , Coordinator
970-689-1753

NOCO Fly Fishing & Conservation Youth Day Camp - July 29th through August 3rd

The application process has begun for the 2013 NoCO Youth Day Camp and already we are getting lots of interest. If you know a youth between the ages of 13 - 18, boy or girl please encourage them to download the Application & Parents Information packet from the [2013 Day Camp page](#). We currently have 15 spots available.

Camp runs from 8:00am to 6:00pm daily Monday through Saturday, and activities take place between Fort Collins and Loveland facilities and rivers locations. We will be passing around a signup sheet at the monthly meeting looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of the camp. We have opportunities to help with casting, fly tying, conservation projects, eletroshocking , one on one river time and more. I look forward to hearing from you with any questions regarding the camp.

Give Us Your Best Shot

We're looking for pictures germane to fly fishing, rivers, lakes, and watershed conservation, volunteers doing that work, fly tying, sharing fishing with youngsters and others, so the options are varied. It would be nice if many of them were local to RMF members, but some destinations will be considered. Having permission to publish on our website will be implicit for submitted photos so make certain you have permission from anyone in your pictures.

Photographers will be acknowledged in a caption with the picture so rush those pictures in.

Send your pictures to [Webmaster](#)

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2013-1-8

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