



Tulsa FlyFishers StreamLines

SPREADING THE LOVE AND JOY OF FLY-FISHING
THROUGHOUT NORTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA.

• ISSUE 9 | • VOLUME 1 | • 2008



Draft In-stream Habitat Enhancement Plan

for the

Lower Illinois River Public Fishing and Hunting Area Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit

Introduction

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) manages a year-round trout fishery within a portion of the lower Illinois River (LIR) below Tenkiller Reservoir. The trout stream begins at Tenkiller Dam and extends 7.75-miles downstream to the U.S. Route 64 bridge near Gore. ODWC seeks to enhance in-stream habitat within a reach of the trout fishery located in the LIR Public Fishing and Hunting Area - Simp and Helen Watts Management Unit. The purpose of this plan is to discuss in-stream habitat deficiencies in that area and proposed solutions for remediation. The benefits of this plan are diverse and include improvements for biota and an increased recreational value of the project area. Please visit www.tulsaflyfishers.org for more about this plan and please plan to attend our meeting September 11th at 7:00pm. We need your input on this issue.

Club Meetings, Outings...Looking Ahead!

Thursday September 11, 2008

IMPORTANT MEETING FOR ALL
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation will be discussing the Draft In-Stream Habitat Enhancement Plan. This is a very important meeting for all that love the Illinois River.

Tulsa Fly Fishers meets jointly with Trout Unlimited Oklahoma Chapter 420 and is a Federation of Fly Fishers-Southern Council affiliate club.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month except July, August and December 7:00PM at the Martin Regional Library, 2601 South Garnet, Tulsa, OK The public is always welcome!

Future Outing Schedules...

Sept. 20, 2008

TFF Outing to Elk River, MO
Elk River Water Level
Cowskin Canoe Rental on the Elk River

Oct 2-4, 2008

Federation of Fly Fishers Southern Council Conclave
Mountain Home, AR
Conclave Schedule of Events
Conclave Pre-Registration Printable Form
ClackaCraft Drift Boat Raffle \$10

Oct 18, 2008

TFF Outing to Table Rock Tailwater
(a.k.a. Lake Taneycomo)
Branson, MO

Nov 22, 2008

Annual Trout Tournament - Details to be announced.

Local Club & Trout Unlimited News

A Message from your FFF President – Fred Kirk

FFF Southern Council Conclave is coming Oct 2-4 in Mountain Home Arkansas. You can get a schedule of events for each day and a preregistration form on the TFF web site calendar page <http://tulsaflyfishers.org/calendar.html> This year we are raffling a fully outfitted ClackaCraft drift boat with trailer. Tickets are \$10 or 3 for \$25 and may be purchased from the FFF-SOC web site or at the conclave <http://www.southerncouncilfff.org/>

Summer is gone and I hope everyone got in some good fishing in the warm weather. With all the rain this year it has been a little difficult in our part of the country. Bull Shoals Dam has been running 8 generators mostly all summer but as of 9/3/08 they shut everything down. As I write this column it is still shut down so this is your opportunity to do some wading before they turn it back on. The club trip to the Green River was a good alternative to all the high water around here. I combined this with a trip to Yellowstone and the Frying Pan River. Here's my report from the web site.

Yellowstone NP – Green River – Frying Pan River; August 2008 Despite the fact that only 3 TFFers attended the Green River outing this summer it was a lot of fun. Bill Smith and I drove to the Green while Dick Waibel flew to Salt Lake City and picked up a rental car. We met on Monday August 6 at Spring Creek Guest Ranch which is 12 miles north of the Green River. Bill and I had already fished Yellowstone National Park for 7 days before arriving at the Green River. Fishing in YNP was great and we even managed to catch a few fish, mostly on dry flies. We also took a float trip on the Madison River outside the park with Jacklins Fly Shop in West Yellowstone. Though we both enjoyed it, I can think of better ways to blow \$500. The weather was good but very, very windy. We threw dry flies all day and had good luck in the morning hours but that afternoon, the clouds significantly slowed the fishing. Seems the trout in the Madison prefer bright sunlight to better see their bugs. Next time, I will spend the day on one of the small creeks in YNP and save my money for a float trip on the White River in Arkansas. In the park we fished the Gallatin River, Specimen Creek, Soda Butte Creek, Trout Lake, Grebe Lake and the Gibbon River. We caught fish on all of them using dry flies and occasionally a dropper. Weather in the park was wonderful with clear blue skies every day and not a drop of rain. We tent camped 5 nights so the lack of rain was welcomed.

On the Green River, we fished mostly dry flies including an ant pattern called the "double ugly" they sell at Trout Creek Fly Shop in Dutch John, Utah. I had purchased some of them last year when I was there and have caught so many fish with them I had to get more to bring back with me. Dick Waibel and I took a float trip on section B on our second day and we caught lots of fish on various hopper patterns in the morning. Around lunch time it began to rain and fishing slowed significantly. I decided to switch to wet flies and caught fish on a woolly bugger and a soft hackle with yellow hare dubbed body and a copper tungsten bead head. I enjoyed the trip but again, I would rather have spent my money on a White River Arkansas float because the Green is so accessible to wading fishermen on section A for seven miles. You can park at the Little Hole and walk up river toward the dam or park at the dam and walk down river toward Little Hole. We tried both directions and had plenty of water to fish. We sight fished to feeding trout in the slow waters with dry flies and fished woolly buggers and various nymphs and wet flies in the riffles. I caught my biggest fish in the riffles using a #14 soft hackle with a peacock herl body and a red 3/32 tungsten bead head. I had tied a few of these before I left town but I only had four of them with me. Our accommodations at Spring Creek Guest Ranch were excellent. Each of us had our own room in the bunkhouse with two shared baths. For \$60 it included an outstanding breakfast and we all opted for dinner each night for an additional \$15. The dinners were worth every bit of it! I will definitely go again.

After leaving the Green, Bill and I drove to Basalt, Colorado to fish the Frying Pan River for a few days before heading home. We were joined by fellow TFFers Jerry McConnell and Charlie Musgrove. We had arranged to stay at Taylor Creek Cabins for three nights and this included private access to a ¼ mile section of the Frying Pan and a small pond behind the cabin which is stocked with trout. We caught lots of fish (mostly browns) and again mainly on dry flies including the Double Ugly, PMDs, Adams, Green Drakes, etc. but my most successful fly on the Frying Pan was a #16 Griffiths Gnat. The moment I tied it on, I began catching fish immediately. Our private water access was very good fishing but we also fished the public areas as well. Bill Smith had the best day when he fished the trophy area near the dam one morning and caught about 30 fish during a huge green drake hatch! He said everyone around him was catching fish right and left. Our cabin was very nice and located just across the street from the river and only 6 miles from the town of Basalt. We went to town each morning for a little breakfast and a visit to the fly shop for supplies. I would highly recommend the Taylor Creek Cabins for your stay in the Basalt area. They have several cabins; ours was a 2 BR, 1 Bath, full kitchen and living area with satellite TV at \$160 a night. Split 4 ways, it was very affordable and it included the private access fishing area.

Fred Kirk

Pictures http://picasaweb.google.com/tulsaflyfisher/TFFGreenRiver8_2008#slideshow

PRESIDENT'S CORNER:



Sept. 2008 Newsletter A Message From Your President

Summer is nearly over and what a strange summer it seems to have been, at least for me. Very different from last summer where the Lower Illinois is concerned. Last year Lake Tenkiller was the only lake in the state that wasn't flooded and because all the others were running full out, the Army Corp of Engineers seldom ran the generators. This year, they were all flooded and Lake Tenkiller was the last to be at or near normal. Now it seems we face the tragic loss of many of the trout in our nearest trout stream. Still unconfirmed, but feared, will be a significant trout kill due to high water temperatures. We will all be saying our prayers that cooler air temps and shorter days will allow the lower depths of Lake Tenkiller to cool down.

We had some wonderful group gatherings this summer since we last met. The fund raiser at Bass Pro, cooking hotdogs, gave us a great kick off for the Tulsa Trout Pond coming January 1st 2009. Fly Fishing Awareness Day held at Leake Park Pond, the site for the Tulsa Trout Pond was a great success. We didn't raise a lot of money, but we certainly raised the awareness of our club and our plans for this winter. Both Channel 2 and Channel 8 have been made aware of our club and planned activities. I currently have a fishing "date" with Jason Shackelford of Channel 2 to take him fly fishing for trout on the LIR. (When conditions improve.) I have planned, with no date set, a meeting with Carol Lambert to take a Waiting Child on a fly fishing outing to the Bass Pro-Shop Pond. (Bass Pro has promised a complete fly rod outfit and Bass Pro tee shirt for her Waiting Child.) This will happen, as Ms. Lambert said, "When just the right child comes along."

Our summer outing was a great success with over 35 in attendance. The fishing wasn't so great but the casting contest put on by Dick Turnbull was fun and many participated. (I got second in the long cast and I'm sorry but they fellow who took the honor, I can't remember his name.) Valley Branscum won the casting accuracy contest in a coin toss and John Johnson won the biggest fish with a 3 to 4 pound catfish! The most fish caught contest was won by another of our members whose name has slipped me. (I told you it has been a strange summer.) The food was great and I have to thank Sandi and Syd Scott for all their help in organizing the food fest for everyone.

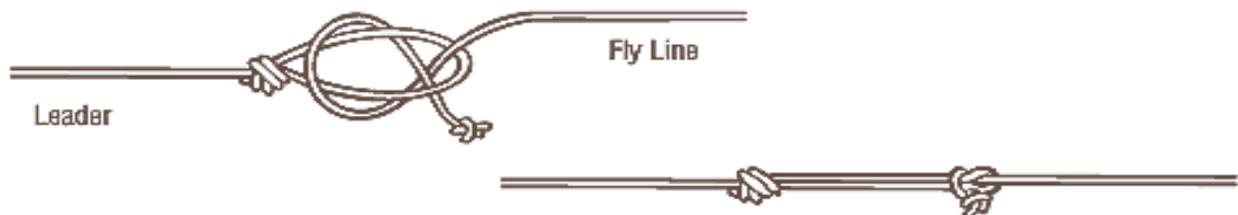
There are lots of things to come this fall and I hope everyone will be at the September meeting to kick off our fall meeting series. Paul Balkenbush, James Vincent, Jim Burroughs and Gary Peterson all from the ODWC will be our guests at the next TFF meeting to layout and explain further plans for the Lower Illinois River habitat improvements, as well as the area plans for the Lower Illinois Watts property. They plan to make a presentation and then open up the meeting for a question and answer session. We have provided the current plan as part of this newsletter for your review. Come prepared with your questions. Perhaps by then the ODWC will also have a better handle on how the warm water has affected the trout in the LIR. Keep your fingers crossed.

See you on the river or at a meeting soon!

Scott Hood

Wedge Knot

The Wedge Knot is a general-purpose connection used in joining fishing line to a leader with a loop.



1. Tie a knot in the end of fly line.
2. Pass the fly line and knot through the leader loop and back around to form a simple knot.
3. Pull both ends to cinch up tight.

On the RISE, TU's TV Program

TU's television show, **On the Rise** begins its first season on the **Outdoor Channel** on **Friday's at 7 p.m.**

Hosted by Frank Smethurst, an accomplished Telluride fly-fishing guide, the show takes viewers on a tour of some of the best fly-fishing locations around the country and highlights places where Trout Unlimited's conservation work has made a difference.

The show airs weekly on [the Outdoor Channel](#) on **Friday nights at 7 p.m.**, with encore airings of each episode on **Saturday at 2 p.m.** and **Sunday at 7:30 a.m.** Check with your local cable provider to see if it carries the Outdoor Channel.

MEMBER NOTICE!

To all members of Tulsa Fly Fishers, Trout Unlimited Chapter 420 & FFF: Make sure you have your email junk filters set to accept email from brhoward@cibtulsa.com so you can receive the monthly Tulsa Fly Fishers, Streamlines newsletter without interruption. If your filter is not set to allow email and attachments from my email you may not receive pertinent club news & information.

Tulsa FlyFishers 2008 Membership

Name _____ ____ renewal ____ Same address as on file	Regular membership \$15 _____
Address _____	Supporting membership \$25 _____
City _____	Junior membership (under 17) \$7.50 _____
State _____ Zip _____	
Home phone _____ Work _____	Membership patch \$6 _____
Spouse name _____	
	Total _____
E-Mail Address _____	

Make checks payable to Tulsa FlyFishers, P.O. Box 54108, Tulsa, OK 74155

Tulsa Flyfishers and the Oklahoma Chapter of Trout Unlimited will meet the SECOND THURSDAY of each month except July, August and December at the MARTIN REGIONAL LIBRARY, 2601 South Garnett, at 7 p.m.