

Granite Bay Flycasters
P.O. Box 1107
Roseville, CA 95678-8107



The Leader

Voice of

GRANITE BAY
Flycasters

Since 1986

Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat and promoting fly fishing skills and good sportsmanship.

Meetings: Granite Bay Flycasters general meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay clubhouse located in the Granite Bay Group Picnic Area at Folsom Lake. **For directions call Drake Johnson at (916) 783-0343.**

The doors open between 6:30 and 7 p.m. for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:30 followed by a quick refreshment break after which the main program begins, which usually consists of a slide-show talk and/or demonstration. A dynamite raffle follows the show.

Membership: To become a member of Granite Bay Flycasters, a nominal fee is required: \$35 for a family; \$30 single; and youth (under 18), \$10. There is a \$7 initiation fee for new members. The cost of membership is pro-rated throughout the year. **For membership information, call Jim Ferguson at (916) 781-2358.**

June 2001

Visit us at: www.gbflycasters.org

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 7-9 p.m. Conservation Committee Mtg.	8	9
10	11	12 Fly Tying Jam 6:30-9 p.m.	13	14 7-10:30 p.m. General Mtg.	15	16 North Yuba Clinic 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
17	18	19	20	21 7-9:30 p.m. Board Mtg.	22	23 June Lake Loop Fish-Out→
24 June Lake Loop Fish-Out	25	26	27	28	29	30

2001

Officers

President	Drake Johnson	916-783-0343
V.P. Membership	Jim Ferguson	916-781-2358
V.P. Conservation	Dave Baker	916-315-0715
Secretary	Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Treasurer	Rod Leggett	916-791-4710

Directors

Through 2000	Jeremy Gray	916-797-3312
Through 2000	Gray Allen	916-783-4334
Through 2001	Denny Welch	530-268-3453
Through 2001	Nathan Joyner	916-984-2025
Through 2002	John Bergman	916-966-7032
Through 2002	Jeff Medina	916-353-1992
At Large	Christine Johnston	530-644-4061
Past President	Rob Ferroggiaro	916-791-0887

Committees

Advertising	Robert Tamson	916-967-0176
Annual Dinner	Chris Ronshausen	916-638-5615
Bear River Project	Jim Coleman	530-885-4128
Casting	John Hogg	916-663-2051
Casting Pond Project	Tom Klinefelter	916-363-6634
Leader Editor	Amy March	530-333-9530
Salmon & Steelhead	Rick Radoff	916-624-2107
Education Program	Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Fishmaster	Arno Dietzler	916-483-8711
Fly Tying	Bill Camazzo	916-663-2604
Gatekeepers	Mike Gervais	916-783-5477
	Jack Peuler	916-797-1547
Golden Trout	Denny Welch	916-353-1992
Historian	Warren Schoenmann	916-725-2542
Librarians	Jim Hunter	916-652-5057
	Mac Hunter	916-791-0359
Merchandising	Mike Brune	916-723-4524
Programs	Bill Camazzo	916-663-2604
Special Projects	Frank Stolten	916-725-6894
Raffle	Jeanne English	530-677-7169
Refreshments	Terry Wasserman	530-677-7189
Webmaster	Bill Avery	916-632-1275
Youth Counselors	Jeanne & Ron English	530-677-7169

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**President's Message
by Drake Johnson**

Now that summer is in full swing, I hope you all have had a chance to get on the water and rip some lips. My wife and I recently spent a long weekend in Grayeagle, allowing me to fish a section of the Middle Fork of the Feather River. I was able to wet wade since the water was not too cold. That was good for wading but not so good for the fish. The river is lower and warmer then it usually is this time of year, a reflection of the lower then usual run-off from the snow pack. It was still great to be on the water even if I didn't hook any fish—in spite of the fact they were jumping all around me.

June is election month for the club and the election committee, led by Frank Stolten, has arranged another slate of great candidates. Check out the candidates on page 2 of this issue of *The Leader*. But, we still need additional officers to lead the club. If you would like to help out, we would be happy to match you up with an available position.

In that same vein, we have several up-coming events that can use member support. The annual picnic is just around the corner (Saturday, September 8) and a number of tasks need to be handled to make this is the great event it has been in years past. I was pleased last year to see a number of new and old members that hadn't been involved much in helping out with club activities take part in the preparation of the picnic. So put it on your calendar to help out this year, and volunteer. This is a good way to get to know other members and to move into being an integral part of this club.

I am pleased to note that our Web page is alive again. Bill Avery has been bringing it up to date.

We have number of fish-outs coming up. Arno is leading a weekend trip starting Friday, June 22 to the June Lake Loop. Please give him a call if you're interested in this trip.

Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting or on the water.

Announcements

Annual Elections

The annual election of officers and directors takes place at the June general meeting. Below is a list of the positions to be voted on and the members who have been nominated so far.

- President: Denny Welch
- Vice President – Membership: Jeremy Gray
- Vice President - Conservation: open
- Secretary: Chris Ronshausen
- Treasurer: John Bergman
- Director: Dave Baker, Tom Simms, and Lester Snow

As you can see we need nominations for the vice president of conservation, and we have room for additional nominations for director. Like other activities in the club, being on the board is actually fun while being educational. Just ask anyone who has ever served on it. It takes very little time (usually two hours a month) and is a great opportunity to become involved in the club and help chart its future direction. For GBF to remain the great organization it is, its members need to be willing to donate their time and talent. We Need You! Please consider how you can help. If you are interested in volunteering your time and assistance for any of these positions or would like more information, please contact either Frank Stolten 725-6894 or Drake Johnson 783-0343 prior to the June meeting.



Many Thanks to the Creek Week Team



Creek Week volunteers from left: David Kashuba, John Carroz, Mac Hunter, David Baker, Joe Bania and Colin Jackson.



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Jeremy Gray

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breathable waders at \$99, wading staffs at \$20, plus hundreds of stocking stuffers-including a huge selection of books
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Announcements *continued*

Sugar Pine Nature Day

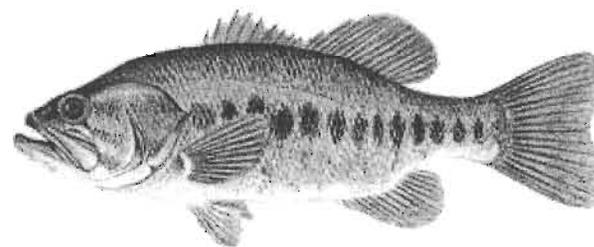
by Drake Johnson

Pete Peterson organized another successful youth fly tying event at the Sugar Pine Nature Day Saturday, May 12. We had around 200 kids come by and learn to tie a Woolly Bugger. We had a great time.

It was so much fun to see the kids' enthusiasm to tie flies and to see how proud they were of their accomplishment. We even had some adults try it. Most impressive was seeing Curtis Frank, a graduate of our youth tying program, patiently show an elderly gentleman how to tie.

Additional club members who helped out were Jim Hunter, Paul Trader, Bill Carnazzo, Roy Frank, Mike Gervais, and Ron and Jeanne English.

If you missed this wonderful opportunity to introduce kids to one aspect of our sport, mark your calendar to help out at the Salmon Festival October 13 and 14.



Upcoming Activities

4th Annual Fly Fishing Clinic North Yuba River Saturday, June 16

Come join us for a day of fishing on the North Yuba. We'll be fishing a scenic section of the North Yuba above Downieville, located approximately two hours from Roseville. This clinic is intended for beginners, or those who don't yet consider themselves intermediate level anglers (whatever that means). This is also the perfect chance for people who attended the Fly Fishing Basics evening clinics to gain on-river experience.

The clinic will be conducted by Bill Carnazzo, club member and fly fishing guide, who has decades of fly fishing experience and has extensive experience on this river. Experienced GBF "coaches" (Rob Ferroggiaro and Sturmer White, and others if necessary) will be on hand to provide more individualized help. We'll start in the morning rigging gear, and learning nymph-fishing tactics. After the lunch break, we'll get pointers on dry fly fishing. The tactics you'll learn will be applicable to other freestone rivers. The clinic is flexible so you can get as much or as little help as you want. You will have plenty of time for actual fishing, and we'll point out access points to keep in mind for future trips to this beautiful river. You can end the day on your own schedule, and those interested can meet in Downieville for pizza at the end of the day.

Non-angling friends and family are also welcome to make the trip, since there is a lot to see and do in the area. While this is arranged as a day trip, overnight accommodations of all types are available if you plan ahead.

Flyers will be available at the June meeting with information on meeting location, car pool, directions to the river, flies, other equipment you'll need, etc. You will need to bring a lunch.

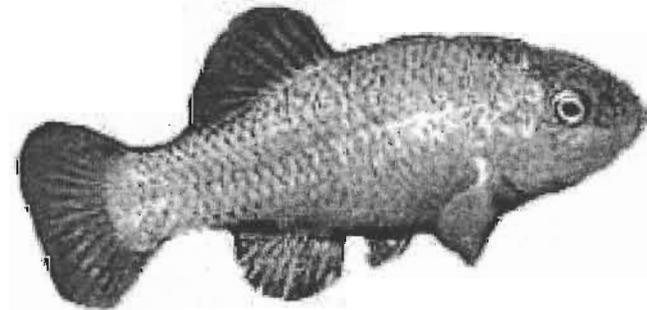
Normally by this time the water isn't too high, but conditions are hard to predict. Fishing freestone streams requires a fair amount of walking, sometimes over irregularly shaped boulders. If this is a concern, please talk with us and we'll try to accommodate you.

Conservation Corner *continued*

At noon, the Salt Creek Pupfish were easily visible from the park's boardwalk, which overlooks the salty creek bed, itself only one inch deep in many places. These fish were at most two inches long, with the males slightly larger than the females and exhibiting breeding colors of bright iridescent blue. Males were aggressively defending off their rivals and actively courting the slightly smaller, duller females. The scene was absolutely remarkable and, except for the scale being off by a thousand times, reminded me of Chinook salmon on their spawning redds in the Lower Yuba. Pupfish are born each spring, their dormant eggs hatching when spring waters enter the dry creek beds. They feed on algae, growing rapidly to maturity in a couple of months.

Well, after continuing on to Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico and visiting monuments, historical sites and homes of dead artists we drove straight home. Since I was fantasizing golden trout, we actually we took a small side trip through Kernville. Because of snow blocking roads in the high elevations, I ended up catching a few small Kern River Rainbows. At least they were a larger than the Pupfish and they had parr marks like the Goldens.

Note from a much-maligned wife: "And you say you never get to fish."



Conservation Corner

by *David Baker*

My wife and I spent three weeks in April taking a classic road trip to the Southwest, which covered 4000 plus miles. Being a spiritual thing, a classic road trip means that you don't make any reservations for accommodations or even plan a definite route. Unlike many of you, I restrained myself and drove past some famous fly fishing destinations, for the quest was touring nature's grandest achievements and not fishing (according to my wife). Well I had to fight back somehow, since those fish that I love to catch and release are certainly among nature's finest monuments, so I retreated into my imagination where rivers are always pristine and fishing extraordinary. I also tied dozens of flies in some of those rather pathetic motels that we ended up in; you know the ones where the TV and plumbing never work. I slept well hearing the sound of running water, so suggestive of a mountain stream with those shy but feisty trout.

After staying overnight in a rundown casino hotel in Beatty, Nevada, we drove downhill past treeless canyons and arroyos to a scorched but attractive desert valley. Eons ago, Death Valley was part of the Sea of Cortez. Pupfish are among the last vestiges of life originating in the ancient sea, tenacious for life with isolated species and subspecies adapting to very harsh aquatic habitats. Although sometimes mixed up with the Desert Pupfish (*Cyprinodon macularius*), Salt Creek is the only place where the Salt Creek Pupfish (*Cyprinodon salimisi*) live. All that remains is a heavily salted vestige of its original aquatic habitat. Currently not listed as endangered, the Salt Creek Pupfish, like most populations of pupfish, live on the brink. Threats include desert development, introduction of exotic/non-native species, and falling water tables.

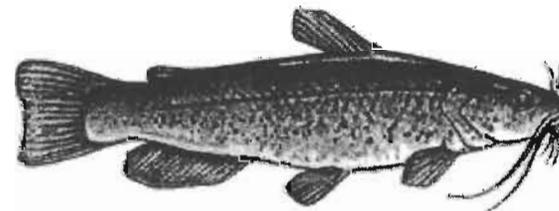
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Upcoming Activities *continued*

We limit attendance so that everyone can receive personal attention, so sign up by the June club meeting if you can. You will be required to prepay a \$20 fee to hold a spot. If the event is oversubscribed, preference will be given to those who haven't attended this clinic before. If we do oversubscribe, we will schedule a second clinic later in the year.

We now have 20+ signups, with 13 or 14 paid; the first 15 to pay will be able to attend this first clinic, so get your money to Bill Carnazzo ASAP, by mail or otherwise. **For more information, talk to Bill at the June meeting or call him at (916) 663-2604.**

Note: You must sign the club liability waiver to participate.



Fly Tying Jam Date Change--June Only

The June 19 Fly Tying Jam Session at the clubhouse has been moved to Tuesday, June 12. (The clubhouse is unavailable June 19.)

Conservation Update

Nothern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers (NCC/FFF)

by Rob Ferroggiaro

CHALLENGE TO SUCTION DREDGING PERMITS

Over the past several years, the council has been concerned about suction dredging and its impact on rivers and fish. The Department of Fish and Game is responsible for issuing dredging permits, and previous efforts to address deficiencies in the current permit process have been unsuccessful. With the assistance of Friends of the River and the Environmental Law Foundation, the council recently signed on to a letter to DFG announcing intent to sue, as a formal legal challenge to DFG's process for issuing permits. We await the department's response to this letter.

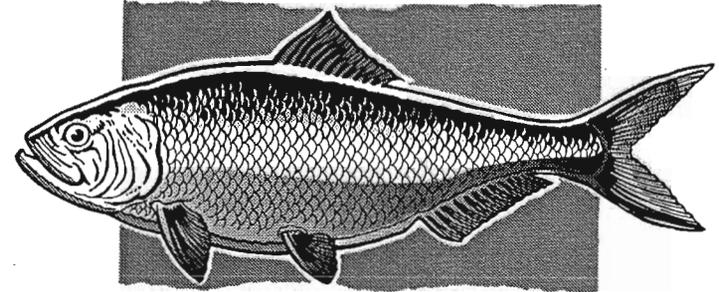
The Department of Fish and Game has routinely issued permits for suction dredging without following provisions of law. The current permitting process is deficient in several ways. For example, the law states that a permit is to be issued only if DFG determines "the operation will not be deleterious to fish." Despite this clear condition, permits have been routinely issued even though the application form asks only for personal information about the applicant. No information is sought regarding the dredging operation itself. Further, DFG is required to determine on every application whether "an on site investigation of the project" is "deemed necessary by the department." This is obviously impossible if they don't even track the location where dredging will occur. Of course monitoring and enforcement is virtually non-existent.

continued next page

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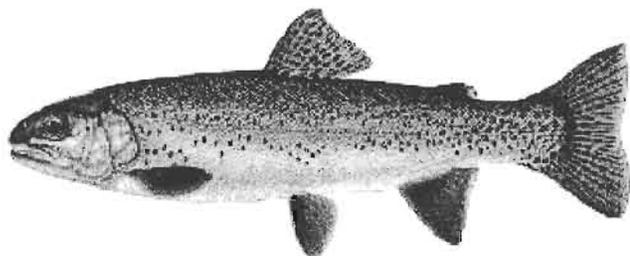
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Flytier's Corner *continued***Instructions**

1. Cover hook with thread, and tie in a sparse tail of wood duck or similarly colored substitute. Tail should be 2/3 length of shank. Also tie in ribbing wire at the same point.
2. Dub a tapered abdomen, covering the rear 2/3 of the hook.
3. Rib the abdomen with the copper wire.
4. Now comes the tricky part: adding the "legs." Cal Bird called this process the "distribution wrap." He would pull a bunch of flank barbules from the stem, lay them on top of the hook, and take a loose wrap around them, causing them to be distributed evenly around the hook. Many tiers find this to be a difficult, frustrating step. Here is a way around it: instead of pulling the barbules from the stem, cut the entire tip of the feather out. Put it on top of the hook and with your fingers distribute the barbules around the hook, and then take a few loose wraps to secure them, followed by some tightening wraps. The result, after a bit of practice, is an excellent and more consistent set of "legs."
4. Dub the thorax/head, covering the front 1/3 of the hook, but leaving enough room for a head.
5. Form a nice head, whip finish, and admire the beauty of Cal's creation.

See ya on the creek!

**NCC/FFF Update** *continued***LOWER YUBA RIVER UPDATE**

As previously reported, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) bowed to the interests of water diverters and issued a revised flow decision for the Lower Yuba, which is totally inadequate to support the fishery. NCC/FFF was among several conservation groups filing motions for reconsideration. We expect the motions will be denied.

Informal meetings are taking place among various interests in an attempt to resolve the disagreement over minimum flows, but the progress to date has not been encouraging. Pending the course of these discussions, a coalition of groups including NCC/FFF, is currently evaluating further options, including a potentially costly legal challenge. Thanks to Bob Baiocchi, Mike Fitzwater, and Nathan Joyner who have been representing the council on this issue.

RESPONSE TO CALAVERAS COMPLAINT

In the spring of 2000, NCC/FFF joined CSPA in filing a complaint to protest the kill of trout in the Calaveras, including ESA listed steelhead, as a result of the severe flow fluctuations at the outflow of New Hogan Dam. The good news is that as a result of our complaint, the dam operators will have to consult with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to insure that steelhead are not harmed by operation of the dam.

The bad news is we recently received the response from the SWRCB in which they deferred action on our complaint, partly because they never received information they requested from DFG. This was particularly disconcerting since the kill involved ESA listed species, and DFG staff led the research to prove the dead fish were steelhead. In this light, NCC/FFF sent a strong letter to DFG Director Hight on behalf of the council requesting an explanation. We now understand DFG will be providing information to the SWRCB which we hope will lead to action by the board itself.

continued page 9

FLY TYING SKILLS PROGRAM

*Sponsored by American Fly
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*Pattern for June Program: Rhyacophila Caddis
(featured in the May Leader)*

Don't be shy, submit a fly! Ask for a critique from a more experienced tier; it will ultimately increase your chances at catching fish--and winning certificates to help support your habit!

For the winner of each category, American Fly Fishing has generously donated the following prizes for each month's contest:

Beginner: \$15 Gift Certificate

Non-beginner: \$25 Gift Certificate

** The winner of the gift certificate in the non-beginner category will be determined by a drawing between those who have entered that specific contest.*

May Winners:

Non-beginner: **Ron English**
Beginner:

Program rules:

- * judging will be during the meeting
- * best tied fly announced just before program, and name of tier featured in the next month's Leader
- * fly must be tied in accordance with instructions from the Leader (right or wrong, and irrespective of whether you find another version of the pattern in a book somewhere), in order to keep the playing field level. The judges need to make a choice based on a single pattern.
- * two categories: beginner and advanced. Anyone who has won the beginner category twice will have to compete in the advanced

Flytier's Corner

by *Bill Carnazzo*

Olive Bird's Nest

Last month we featured a good caddis pattern. The Olive Bird's Nest is another winner and provides an alternative "go to" pattern. No one is really sure why Cal Bird's wonderful standby pattern is so successful—I just know it works. Just a few weeks ago I used a #14 version on the Upper Sac, with astounding results.

We have featured this pattern here previously, but it is worth repeating, especially at this time of year. My theory is that at certain times of the day some species of caddis larvae detach themselves from their hold on rocks, sticks, etc., and get "into the drift." Trout then react accordingly and will snatch up a properly drifted fraud. On streams such as the Upper Sac, my experience is that this occurs in the mid to late afternoon. Give it a try sometime when success seems to be elusive.

Materials

Hook	Tiemco 200R; Daiichi 1270; Mustad 9671; #12-20
Thread	Olive 6/0 or 8/0
Tail	Wood duck flank or substitute
Abdomen	Light olive rabbit or beaver
Rib	Fine copper wire
Thorax/head	Light olive rabbit or beaver
Legs	Wood duck flank or substitute

continued next page

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NCC/FFF Update *continued*

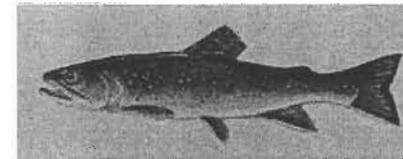
MEETING WITH DFG REGION 1 STAFF (NORCAL/NORTH COAST)

I recently had the opportunity to meet with DFG staff in Redding to discuss issues of importance to trout anglers. Among the topics discussed were:

- Status of Upper Sac recovery
- DFG support plan for FERC license renewals on the Pit, Hat Creek, and the McCloud
- Battle Creek restoration plan
- Trout planting in mountain lakes in this region

We continue to enjoy a good working relationship with Don Koch, regional manager, and his staff.

For more information about these issues or about NCC/FFF, contact Rob Ferroggiaro at rferro@ns.net
Federation of Fly Fishers - Northern California Council
9270 Oak Leaf Way
Granite Bay, CA 95746
(916) 791-6391 Tel
(916) 791-6574 Fax
E-mail rferro@ns.net

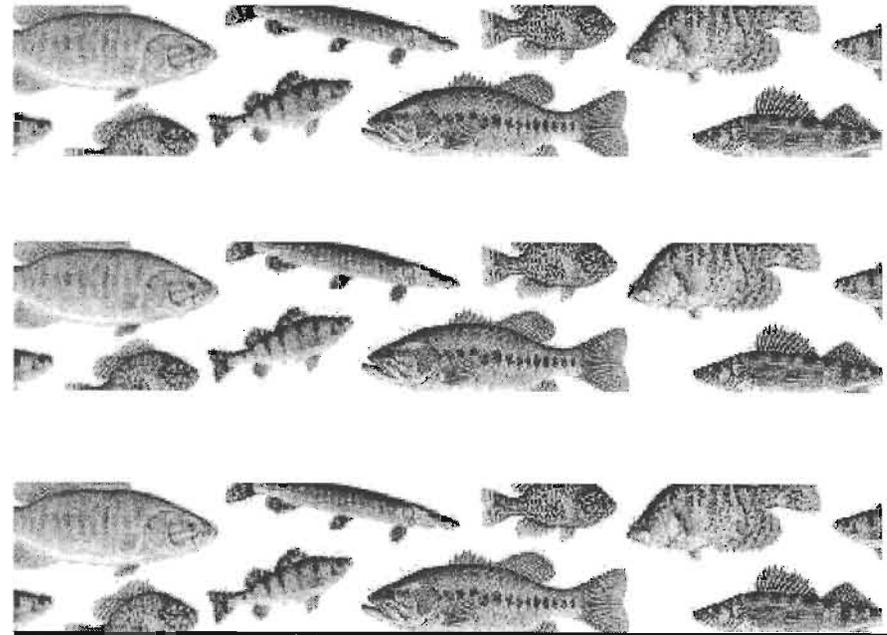


Members' Night at June General Meeting

The June general meeting, Thursday, June 14, is "members' night." This special meeting provides an opportunity for members to ask questions and talk with the more experienced fly fishers of the club. Members' night always proves a big hit with members, so be sure to come, and bring your questions.

Displays will be set up around the clubhouse with information on various fly fishing subjects such as, fly tying, guiding, entomology, equipment, knots, and more.

The business portion of the meeting will be short to accommodate this special program.



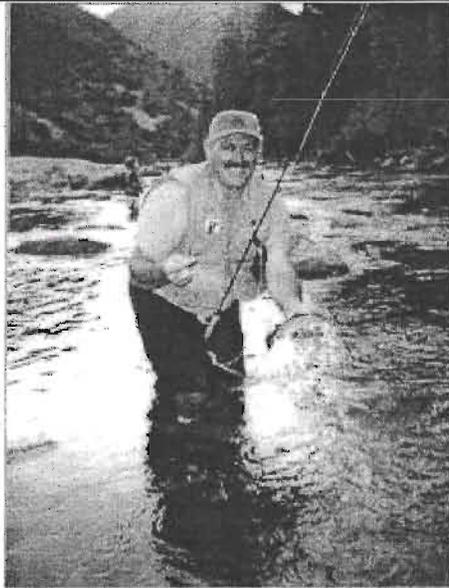
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