



The Leader

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANITE BAY FLYCASTERS



December 2020

<http://gbflycasters.org>

Leader's Line

by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

Club life remains much of the same as the past several months, Zoom this and Zoom that. Whoever thought "Zoom" would become such a household word. Thanks to many creative members, we are able to keep up on our fly tying, chatting about fishing (Let's Talk Fishing), and Conservation. Soon we will be learning to tie knots via Zoom. Crazy thought, but it is true.

Although we are a fishing club, with the holiday season in full swing, I am going out on a Christmas tree limb and suggesting instead of sharing our "catch of the day" photos we all love so much, that we share some holiday cheer. Share a photo of your decorations, a favorite holiday recipe, or best crazy sweater—you decide. Or just ignore me and keep sharing your fish photos.

With Covid continually shutting doors around us and pushing us further into a digital world, there is one door we need to remember Covid will never be able to shut—nature's door. It will remain open as long as we are willing to walk through it. So get out and enjoy the beginning of the winter season.

Happy Holidays everyone...

27th Annual Fall Upper Sacramento Fishout October 29th to November 1st

by Tony Jelinek

The 27th Annual Fall Upper Sacramento Fishout was a great success. We were met by warm days, cold nights, glorious fall colors, river flow of 190 cfs, and plenty of pocket water and pools harboring wary trout. 16 members were on the trip, with a total of 14 anglers, including 3 Upper Sacramento first-timers.

The word for this trip was "persistence." The trout were not easily taking the fly, but with persistence success could be had. I think, perhaps, it was because they had all seen Steve Pitts' rig, and were so confused they just gave up on taking flies. You should see this rig—a big, dry fly like a hopper, followed by droppers with a nymph; then a soft hackle; then a Jimmy Legs, finally with the weight at the bottom. And, oh I forgot, instead of an indicator, there is a menu; so the fish can figure out their choices. He did catch a 17-incher, which I believe was the largest fish caught on the trip; so who am I to jest.

Per usual, the hot flies were a copper Copper John, red Copper John, Prince Nymph, Dark Lord, and brown or black Jimmy Legs. There was also David Jones' magical pin-striped orange fly—some sorta Halloween special.

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D E C E M B E R 2020						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
6.	7.	8. Board of Directors Meeting via ZOOM	9. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM	10. Monthly Meeting via ZOOM	11.	12.
13.	14.	15. Fly Tying Jam via ZOOM	16.	17.	18.	19.
20.	21.	22.	23. Let's talk Fishing via ZOOM	24.	25.	26.
27.	28.	29.	30.	31.		

27th Annual Fall Upper sacramento Fishout - Continued from page 1

Kim Lloyd and **Jim Cralle** did some damage catching a few fish at one of Kim's favorite spots. I tried to get Jim to tell me where it was, but he said he had no idea, as he had been blind-folded on the ride in and back. I pressed Kim for information, but he said if I didn't watch it, he would pull out his shotgun. Kim's wife, **Wendy**, joined him on the trip, and spent her time painting. She showed us a very nice painting of Santa Claus. I found it interesting that it had a strange resemblance to Kim.

Veteran, **Jack Ramos**, was kind enough to invite his son, **Gary**, along and show him where all the fish were, and let him catch them. Isn't that always the way? You raise these children, teach them everything you know, and then they just do better. Well, I guess that is how we parents really want it to be; so great job, Jack.

Chris Kight was the first first-timer on the Upper Sac to break the ice with 2 fish on the first day, followed by **Mike Mizinski**, who got two nice fish on a dry-dropper rig. The other newcomer, **Gary Crause**, had a fish on the first day, but had to wait until the 2nd day to land his first fish in some fast riffles.

Paul Estridge made his 2nd trip to the Upper Sacramento, and had a good time short-line nymphing, using a dry-dropper, and dry fly fishing. A few Caddis flies were flying around, but none coming to the surface; so no thrill of that surface take, but enough below surface to make for a good trip.

Dale Spear and his wife, **Cathi**, showed Mike Mizinski the wonders of the Upper Sacramento River, and even had their own private stretch of river to fish—thanks to a helpful homeowner. There is more to this story, but Dale and my versions differ substantially, so I won't risk more detail.

Epitomizing the theme of the fishout was **Eric Palmer**, who persisted all the way to Sunday to catch a beautiful 14-inch Brown on a Caddis imitation. His sidekick for the trip, **Don Hansen**, would wait until their

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trip after the Upper Sac on the Klamath River to catch steelhead and half-pounders.

Siskiyou County was in the lowest, least restrictive tier for COVID-19, so we were able to enjoy the local restaurants. The Cornerstone Cafe and Wheelhouse were open for breakfast. Unfortunately, the Dough Hook, a great local bakery, was a casualty of the coronavirus, and has closed. The weather in the evening was warm enough to dine outside. We enjoyed a great dinner on the patio of the Dunsmuir Brewery. **Steve Pitts** made a delicious dinner for all of us of tri-tip, salad, and beans that we enjoyed in the backyard with the Upper Sac flowing in the background at a house where he was staying. **Cathi Spears** baked delicious brownies and cookies for us to enjoy. The final evening we dined at Casa Ramos in Mt. Shasta City, which served its usual good food.



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The big excitement for me was looking upstream one evening and seeing a big, huge, big, large, big brown bear (those things are big) crossing the river about 40 yards above me. Fortunately, after reaching the other side of the river and shaking off, it took one look at me and took off in the other direction.

We had a great time enjoying the river, the fishing, the scenery, and camaraderie of our fellow club members. Only true stories were told, and wise insights on the intricacies of fishing were shared by all.

Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds

Super Cat pontoon boat with all accessories necessary to float a chosen lake, pond for your favorite fish ALL in perfect, clean working order. 2 attached gear bags. Repair kit for Super Cat (never had a leak). Includes additional oar accessory rack (so you can row your way across if you're tired of kicking), instructions and collapsible oars included - Cost New: \$1025

Accessories: Anchor w/ tether \$45; Flexible strap rod holder \$20; 2 Strap-on pontoon rod holder \$15 ea.; 2-way Coleman pump \$25; Outcast fins \$99; PFD with case & instructions \$129; Booties \$50 (size XL - you need these); Change mat to keep your socks clean Free; 1 extendable net \$125; 1 docking strap (homemade) and a Carry-All bag to - what else, carry all the stuff needed.

Retail value for all: \$1,548, asking \$750/OBO for the whole package—will not sell items separately.

Henry Sandigo hsandigo@gmail.com or 415-716-0666



To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of The Leader, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: editor@gbflycasters.org. All ads must be submitted by the 15th of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.

The Potential for Coho Salmon Returning to the Upper Klamath River Following Dam Removal

by Max Ramos

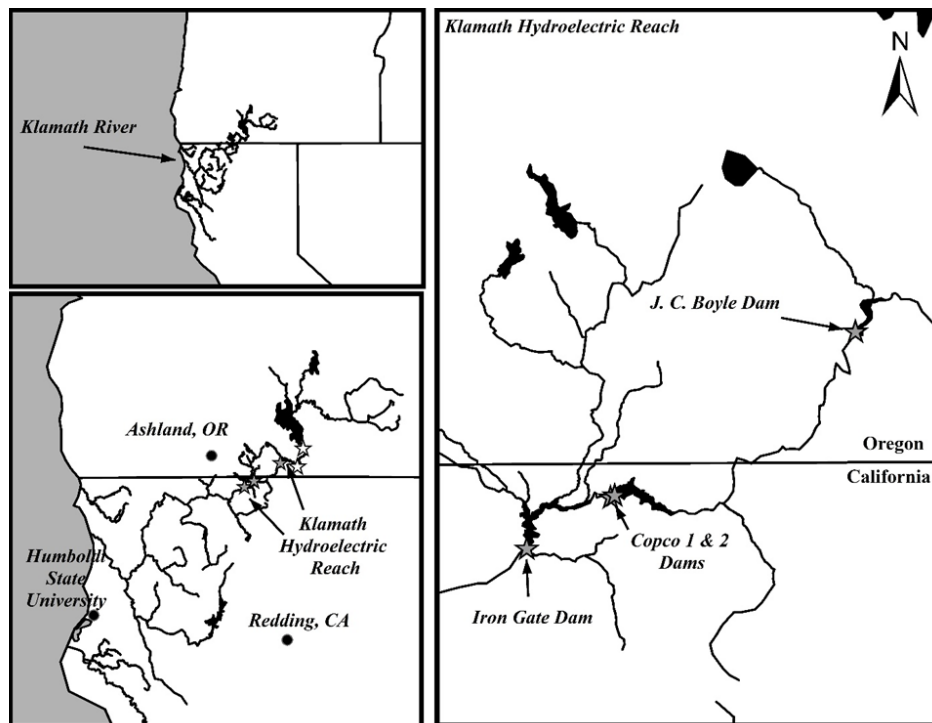
Background:

Editorial comment: *Max Ramos, a student in the Fisheries Biology program at Humboldt State University and a recipient of the Bill Carnazzo fellowship, conducted his graduate research on stream habitat above Iron Gate Dam on the Klamath River. Max's research assessed the potential for streams above the dams to support the return of coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) after dam removal (expected 2023). His findings and report follows.*

Overview:

Nestled in the high desert, a plethora of cold, spring-fed tributaries to the mainstem Klamath River will provide substantial habitat for returning coho and Chinook salmon, steelhead, and Pacific lamprey after the removal of four major dams. In addition to providing access to new habitat, dam removal will

alleviate issues in the habitat downstream of the impoundments. Each summer, water in reservoirs above the dams is choked by toxic blue-green algae, and increases in parasite loads throughout the Klamath basin have been fueled by the buildup of water behind the dams.



Iron Gate Dam in 2018

Other dam removal projects have been successful in the Pacific Northwest. Coho salmon returned to habitat above the Condit dam site on the White Salmon River, a tributary to the great Columbia River, only four years after removal. A dam removal project on the Elwha River, in the Olympic National Park, Washington, saw a large increase in adolescent coho salmon in the years following removal. These dam removal projects give us hope for the future of coho salmon in the Klamath River and their ability to flourish in habitats above the dams.

Klamath River Hydroelectric Dam Locations to be Removed

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The Potential for Coho Salmon - Continued from page 4

Photo (courtesy of PacifiCorp) of initial blasting of Condit Dam on the White Salmon River, WA

juvenile coho spend a larger portion of their early life in freshwater than other ocean-going fishes, they require access to quality food sources for a longer duration. Freshwater streams on the west coast of North America are generally low in productivity (low in food), presenting a unique challenge for coho salmon.

Water: Coho salmon are the most sensitive species of salmon to high water temperatures in the Klamath River. During the summer, the mainstem Klamath River exceeds temperatures suitable for the survival and growth for recently hatched coho. During these warm summer months, coho seek temperature refuge in cold water tributaries throughout the Klamath, sometimes at great distances and in some circumstances even traveling upstream!

Shelter: Young coho seek refuge from predators and fast-flowing water in slack water habitats often found in beaver ponds, side-channels, and alcove pools. Underwater cover features such as large wood, bank undercuts or large boulder overhangs provide critical habitats for coho during their first year and a half in freshwater.

Methodology and Conclusion:

To begin my research, I assessed the potential of small streams above Iron Gate Dam to support juvenile coho salmon in summer months. In doing so, I used modeling approaches for streams above Iron Gate

Salmon runs continue on a declining trend in the Klamath River. Against many odds, coho salmon continue to persist in the Klamath, but at a fraction of historic numbers. It is estimated that, historically, between 15,000 and 20,000 coho returned annually to the Klamath River. Present day coho returns to the Iron Gate Fish Hatchery and Trinity River Hatchery often dip below 2,000 fish per year. With few estimated "natural origin" (i.e. not from hatchery) fish returning to the Klamath each year, better accesses to historic habitat is needed for coho salmon to stand a chance in the future.

During their time rearing in streams before heading to sea, coho salmon, much like humans, require three main components to live a happy and prosperous life: Food, Water, and Shelter.

Food: A connoisseur of foods for their first 14-18 months in streams, developing coho salmon consume both terrestrial (land-based) and aquatic (water-based) insects. Because



Photo (courtesy of Hamilton et al. 2016) of salmon catch above present-day dam sites.

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The Potential for Coho Salmon - Continued from page 5

Dam to estimate capacity and distribution. I found that six newly accessible streams will provide greater than 16 miles of accessible habitat with most having summer temperatures suitable for coho salmon. Using modeling techniques, I estimated that the streams could support up to 105,000 juvenile coho salmon in the summer, with most of this capacity (66,300 individuals) in Spencer Creek (note that predicted capacity is not a prediction of actual numbers following dam removal). The Klamath River is unlike most rivers in the Pacific Northwest in that it is highly productive (high in food), which bodes well for the recovery of coho salmon.

Looking at habitat use of coho salmon in streams below the dams, I found that the presence of juvenile coho salmon was positively correlated with instream cover (such as woody debris or bank undercutting), surface area, and nearby coho salmon hatchery production. Applying these relationships to the streams above the dams, five out of six streams could provide substantial suitable habitat for juvenile coho. I also found that two of the six streams could be important spawning tributaries based on available spawning gravels.



Photo (courtesy of Hamilton et al. 2016) of salmon catch near Upper Klamath Lake before the dams.

Based on model predictions and a large amount of quality habitat for coho salmon, Spencer Creek should be prioritized for restoration and protection. While Spencer Creek contains a large quantity of appropriate habitat for coho salmon, I identified limited spawning and rearing habitat in three of the six streams, suggesting a need for habitat restoration. Overall, including the tributaries I studied and the adjacent main stem Klamath River, the removal of the four dams will provide over 46

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WE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT FLY TYING...



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“They have the largest selection of fly tying materials in California!” - Andy Burk

The Potential for Coho Salmon - Continued from page 6

miles (plus an additional 4 miles behind small dam structures) of habitat for coho salmon. Other species that undertake longer migrations—like Chinook salmon, steelhead, and Pacific Lamprey—stand to reap even larger benefits with access to 100's of miles of newly-accessible habitat extending to Klamath Lake and beyond.

Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner
(Taken from the Article Written in December 2011)

Fly Patterns - Jiggy Caddis



Jiggy Caddis

Materials:

Hook:	Umpqua C400BL, sizes 14, 16
Weight:	Lead substitute wire, sized to hook size
Thread:	8/0 olive or black
Bead:	Umpqua slotted tungsten bead, gold or copper
Abdomen:	Olive dubbing mixed with pearl UV material
Ribbing:	Small mono thread or tippet material
Thorax:	Black dubbing mixed with pearl UV material
Back:	Pearl "Sili Skin"

Description

OK, this will be the last (maybe?) in my running dialog about caddis patterns. I've admired Andy Burk's "Rock Rollers" for a long time, and Steve Korbay's own version of that genre of flies (aka Czech Nymphs). The interesting thing about Steve's version is that he uses a small, imported jig-style hook with a 60 degree "snout." Those hooks were hard to come by—Steve sent me some awhile ago and I have used them up—but now there is an alternative available from Umpqua. They have a new series of hooks that they are calling "competition" hooks. One of these is a small jig hook available down to size 16. The trouble here is that they are pricey (as are the imported ones) at \$9.25 for a package of 25 hooks (same price for all of the competition series). All of the competition series hooks (including the jig hook) feature a much larger gape than standard hooks, and a longer, barbless hook point for greater penetration. The snout of the jig hook is made to accommodate one of Umpqua's new tungsten slotted beads that slide on up to the hook eye, which is oriented to the hook shank axis instead of set perpendicular to the shank in "normal" fashion.

Anyway, I decided to feature one of these flies for this month's pattern. Actually, it's a meld of Andy's and Steve's styles of tying. They work well on the Truckee—I do know that for sure, and I've used them on the Upper Sac with good results. Yes, that means you'll need to purchase a package of the Umpqua jig style hooks—alternatively, you could try using a large scud style hook. You'll also need to purchase some slotted tungsten beads. Regarding the body colors, the sky is the limit. We'll use olive dubbing here, but use your imagination; tie some up in orange, pink, tan, amber, cream, etc.



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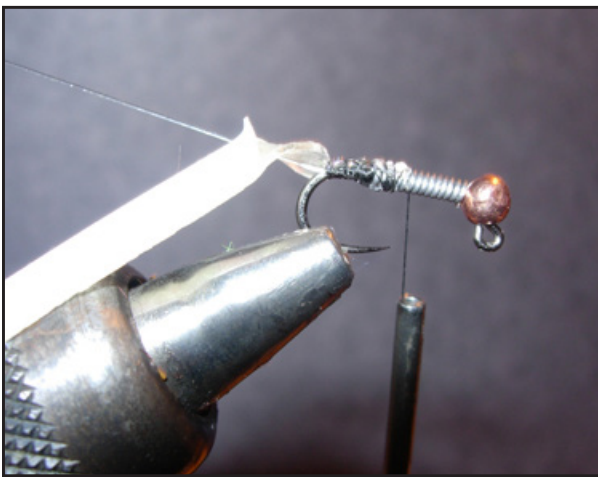
Tying Instructions

For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.

1. If you decide to use a hook other than the C400BL, smash the barb.
2. Place a slotted bead on the hook and slide it around the bend and onto the snout of the jig hook. Wrap weight onto the shank from just ahead of the top of the bend to the bead, and cover it with thread and head cement.



Steps 1 & 2



Step 3

3. Tie in the mono ribbing at the hook bend, along with a 1/8" strip of Sili Skin. The Sili Skin has a backing; trim one end of the strip to a point, and peel the backing from the point, leaving it on the rest of the strip for now. Tie it in by the point, shiny side down.

4. Dub the abdomen, making it robust, ending about 1/8" behind the bead. Dub the thorax, filling in the gap between the abdomen and the bead.



Step 4

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Steps 5, 6 & 7

5. Remove the backing from the Sili Skin and pull it over the top of the fly; tie it down behind the bead.
6. Rib the fly with the mono (use 4 or 5 evenly spaced wraps) and tie it off at the same spot.
7. Put a small amount of black dubbing on the thread and wrap it around the tie off point. Whip finish the fly and apply a drop of superglue to the thread. With your bodkin, tease out some of the dubbing on the bottom side of the thorax to give the appearance of legs.

Tying Tips

As you can guess, these flies are like grenades—heavy and strong (they don't explode, however, when a fish takes them). If you use a double fly rig (as I do), you may even be able to get away with no split shot on the leader. But be prepared to lose a few to the fish Gods because you must fish these flies on the bottom. So, have at it, and....See ya on the creek.

Enjoy, and see ya on the creek...!!!

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Discovery Bay (Veteran's Day) Fishout Report

by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader



The Discovery Bay Fishout was very successful for some, and slow for others. We had good participation from the club members, about 6 of us total. The weather was great, pretty cool in the morning, then warming up to the low 60's. **Mike Bone** was the top producer with 33 fish landed—30 small strippers and 3 large mouth. Mike was fishing a double fly set up, and he even had a couple of doubles. He was fishing out at the opening of DB by the water pipes around the corner from the light house. Great job Mike.

Mel Odemar and **John Wallace** got a few—two barely legal stripers, several shaker stripers, maybe half a dozen LMB, none of much size, fishing from John's Boston Whaler out in the river at the mouth of DB. **Michael Churchill** got 8 small stripers and one dinner-plate size red ear. **Mike McKinley**, **Joe Cammarrano**, and myself got hits, but nothing to boat. Overall, it was a fun day. Hope to see you for the next Veteran's Day Fishout.

Granite Bay Flycasters

Mission: The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat, advancement of the art of Fly Fishing, and good sportsmanship.

Meetings: General club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay Activities Center on the shores of Folsom Lake. For directions, check <http://gbflycasters.org>.

Doors open between 6:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M. for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually involves a guest speaker and slide show, or other presentation. All meetings are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to attend.

Membership: Applications are available on-line at <http://gbflycasters.org> and at general meetings. Single membership: \$30; Family memberships: \$35; and youth (under 18): \$10. There is also a \$12 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, contact Don Whitecar at 916-804-5384, or visit the website at <http://gbflycasters.org>.

The Leader: To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Frank Stolten at editor@gbflycasters.org. Please put **GBF Leader** in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month.

Please notify if address change

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