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## President's Message

It's beginning to look and feel like winter out there, and our excellent November speaker (Tye Krueger) gave us some great tips and advice on winter fishing opportunities here in Central OR. Personally, I enjoy winter fishing for its solitude, smaller crowds, and peaceful settings along the rivers. If you haven't tried it yet, and you can stand a little cold, then I highly recommend it!

By now everyone has seen the new rate levels for renewing your membership. We've had a few issues with the new system, so if you are having any problems with your renewal, whether it's wrong membership level or trouble with payment, contact Mary Baron and she will be able to correct the problem.

One of the things we did this year to counteract the loss of revenue due to COVID was to apply for a grant from FFI to pay for our monthly guest speakers. As a member club we are eligible for grants from them. After being reviewed by the chain of command up to the ORCFFI Board of Directors, our request was denied, but I have a reclama in to them asking for reconsideration. This is a minor setback, as we do have funds to run the club for some years in the future, although we won't be able to operate as we did in years past without the Banquet. We will continue to explore other grant opportunities with FFI in the future, and if anyone has ideas for a grant, please let me know.

We held our election this year using an on-line voting system, which worked really well. The new slate is in this issue, so give it a look to see who your Officers and Directors will be for 2021.

Sherry Steele's fly-tying video classes will begin on Dec 3, so get your vise and tools ready for some winter action! See the article in last month's newsletter for all the info.

Cool videos of the month: This one is from the Tactical Fly Fisher collection and deals with 2 stillwater subjects: a basic loch style leader formula, and a quick and easy way to change your fly line while out in the boat. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PFArgpqw1-Y>

And here's another one from Phil Rowley; this time he talks about a mounting system for your fish finder that can be used with anything from large lake boats to your inflatable pontoons.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgRUMZK-KOk&t=188s>

As always, thanx for being a part of this great Club, and feel free to let me (or any board member) know if you have ideas for improvement.

Get out and fish!

- *Tim Quinton*

Tim Quinton, President COF



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**GENERAL *virtual* MEETING | DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**  
MEETINGS WILL BE VIRTUAL! LOOK FOR AN EMAIL TO COME THAT EXPLAINS THE DETAILS.



This month we have **Brian O’Keefe** who will be presenting his virtual program “My Favorite Fish”, a collection of Brian’s fun and colorful photos of his favorite fish from fresh and saltwater environments. Brian is no stranger to COF and will again entertain you with his humorous commentary while viewing fantastic fly fishing photography.

After 45 years of harassing the fish in and around Central Oregon, Brian moved to Malheur County, last May, and now resides 20 minutes away from Eastern Oregon’s premier trout river The Owyhee and 4 minutes away from a boat ramp on the Snake River, which provides endless smallmouth fishing for this “Bass Junkie”. Currently, he works with Eleven Angling [www.elevenangling.com](http://www.elevenangling.com) an organization located in Crested Butte, Colorado which owns and operates fly fishing lodges and guiding services throughout the world

He is a world traveler having fished and photographed some of the greatest fresh and salt water fly fish destinations on earth. He sold his first fly fishing photograph at the age of 16 and ever since

then has made fly fishing photography his passion and pursuit. You can see a sampling of this photography on Brian’s web site [www.brianokeefephotography.com](http://www.brianokeefephotography.com). Brian’s photography has appeared in numerous fly fishing magazines and journals as well as numerous angling books.

When not fishing and taking photos he can be found at home tending to his garden and enjoying the good life.

### **SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL COF MEMBERS:**

If you are not tuning in on our monthly virtual meetings you are missing out on great monthly presentations. COVID-19 has taken a toll on all of us, but your fly fishing club is still going strong and providing quality presentations for your enjoyment. We are looking forward to seeing you at this month’s meeting.

We email the link to the virtual meeting each month to all members, so if your email isn't current you won't get it. If your email is correct but you're still not getting it, contact Mary Barron, our Webmaster. Also, anyone can access the newsletter on our website without signing in.

## EDUCATION

### Blast From The Past!

*The COF Newsletter archives hold some excellent information that is factual, timely, and never gets old. This month's article, from August 2010, is another excellent Bill Seitz discussion of the manners and etiquette of our sport. This theme is always timely, and it goes a long way towards making our time on the water that much more enjoyable. Thank again Bill for this excellent article! If any members have ideas for similar articles please let me know. — Tim Q*

### FLY FISHING AND THE GOLDEN RULE: A PRIMER ON THE ETHICS AND ETIQUETTE OF OUR SPORT

When and how do fly fishers new to the sport develop a sense for the ethics and etiquette of fly fishing? As an example, I was 10 years old when I started fly fishing. I grew up in central Illinois in the 50s and 60s when hardly anyone in the area knew what fly fishing was all about. No one in my family fly fished; we were a family of “worm dunkers.” It was hard to find flies in the local sporting goods stores. It wasn't until many years later that I realized that fly fishing was steeped in tradition and had established ethics and etiquette. I had no one in my family or peers to provide the background of ethics and etiquette that the sport was founded upon. I'm sure many of us started out in a similar fashion. It seems that not a day goes by that I don't hear about some horror story from a fly fisherperson about some recent conflicts with other fisherpersons (many fly fishing) on the popular lakes, rivers, and streams of central Oregon. Last week, I witnessed several incidents on the Madison River in Montana. During the spring and summer months, our favorite “fishing holes” become crowded. When crowded conditions occur, there is always a chance that tempers will flair and that common courtesies will go out the window. After some discussion with these unhappy folks, one common thread seems to surface – most fly fisherpersons new to the sport do not have a complete understanding of the ethics and etiquette of our sport. Like me in my early years, many did not have mentors to educate them. More on that later. When I read the many books and articles on fly fishing, some general and some specific to a type of fishing or a species such as steelhead, usually ethics and etiquette are the last subjects covered – almost as an afterthought. However, one book I often refer to is

Scott Richmond's Fishing Oregon's Deschutes River. Up front, Scott addresses ethics and etiquette. He offers sound advice in two areas involving behavior on and around the river: Follow the Golden Rule – Do unto others as you would have them do unto you – where “others” include the entire ecosystem. The next advice is to “Be Patient.” Most confrontations between anglers or boaters arise from ignorance. He offers a few specific guidelines for all to follow:

1. Communicate with other river and lake users – Positive and courteous communications go a long way.
2. Ask first – If someone is fishing near an area you want to fish, ask if you will disturb them.
3. Don't be a hole hog – Don't monopolize the water for long periods, move on and give someone else a shot.
4. Don't wade below an angler swinging flies – Usually someone fishing a steelhead run with a traditional wet-fly swing is probably working their way downstream. Don't wade in the river below them, or near them on the upstream side. If you are not sure, ask. If you enter downstream, you should stay at least 200 yards from an upstream angler.
5. Don't wade close to an angler nymph fishing with an indicator – They could be working up or downstream, so ask before wading in above or below them.
6. When floating, give bank anglers room – if possible, give wade fishermen a wide berth, staying at least 30 feet away from where they're fishing (not standing).
7. Don't pull your boat or a raft into a back eddy until you are sure no one is fishing it.
8. Clear out of launching/landing sites quickly.
9. Don't block the river when drifting the river in a large group with several boats.
10. Give room when passing through rapids, leaving at least 50 yards between you and the craft in front of you.
11. Follow the “Rules of the Road” when drifting – Down-river-bound traffic has the right-of-way, and boats should bear right when passing.
12. Don't target or harass spawning fish.

13. Don't abuse the riparian zone, the thin strip of vegetation along the river.
14. Dispose of human waste properly.
15. Don't litter.
16. Leave an area looking better than you found it.
17. Keep dogs and other pets under control.
18. Know the rules – Understand the fishing regulations and follow them.
19. Manners are contagious!

I would add the following two additional guidelines:

1. Show respect for the fish – See the article in the July newsletter on how to release a fish and other newsletter articles that discussed how to catch and release a fish and handling fish in warm water conditions.
2. Space boats/float tubes/pontoon boats in lakes – do not get closer than two casting distances to other boats.

As members of the Central Oregon Flyfishers (COF), we need to set a good example for others to follow. I urge those members new to the sport to ask the club's "old timers" at meetings and outings about the ethics and etiquette of fly fishing. On the flip side, the experienced members should be willing to share their beliefs about the ethics and etiquette of the sport with new members. Our collective willingness to follow the ethics and etiquette that I have discussed in this article and past newsletters will help us ensure that fly fishing continues to thrive and be enjoyable for us and future generations. A strong foundation of ethics and etiquette will be increasingly necessary as the number of anglers increases while populations of wild fish, such as steelhead, redbands, and mountain whitefish, and their habitats decrease. As individuals, we are responsible for our actions on the waters of Central Oregon and elsewhere. Let's practice the Golden Rule, show patience, and provide the leadership and mentorship for which COF is known.

— Bill Seitz, Conservation Chair

- TIM QUINTON  
CGTIMQ@GMAIL.COM

## NEXT CAST FLYFISHERS

### Registration

It is that time of year to register as member of the Center Oregon Flyfishers (COF) and Next Cast. Per the COF by-laws all individuals 25 year old or younger can become a member of COF free. The COF board wants to encourage young members. Next Cast members are required to register which will provide me as Next Cast coordinator, your contact information. Due to Covid 19 we had to stop face to face programs. I'm hopeful that in 2021, we will initiate face to face programs: outings, fly tying, cast techniques and other activities. Therefore it is critical that you register as a member of Next Cast. Parents please encourage youth to become members of COF and Next Cast. It is our responsibility to develop the next generation of Flyfishers. If you have questions please contact me.

- FRED A. CHOLICK  
(785) 410-1866, FCHOLICK@GMAIL.COM

## WILD WOMEN OF THE WATER

Be sure to not miss our annual Holiday gathering! This year it will look different as has most things this year! Join us on Zoom and be sure to bring your own beverage and holiday cheer! We have events planned for the new year as well which you won't want to miss! Watch your email for your Zoom invitation.

- December 9th – 6:00pm - Holiday Gathering on Zoom
- January 13th – 6:00pm – Women and the sport of flyfishing with special guest Kaitlin Barnhart, founder of The Mayfly Project.
- February 24th – 6:00pm – Bugs, Bugs, and more Bugs with Liz Jones. This will be excellent, be sure not to miss!
- March 24th – 6:00pm – Get your equipment ready for spring and special guest, Sascha Clark Danylchuk, Executive Director of Keep Fish Wet.

- SUE COYLE  
541-668-3565, WILDWOMEN@COFLYFISHERS.ORG

# FISH PASSAGE OPAL SPRINGS VAKI RIVERWATCHER CAMERA/COUNTER

11/15/2019 - 9/20/2020

TYPE	TOTAL NUMBER	UPSTREAM NUMBER	DOWNSTREAM NUMBER
BRIDGE LIP SUCKER	12	12	
BROWN TROUT	54	45	9
BULLTROUT	454	315	139
CHISEL MOUTH	1,910	1,650	260
CHINOOK SALMON	2	2	
LARGE SCALE SUCKER	10,122	7,654	2,468
NORTHERN PIKE MINNOW	9,181	7,447	1,734
RAINBOW TROUT	1,401	1,097	304
SALMON SMOLT	1	1	
SMOLT	42	20	22
STEELHEAD	31	28	3
STEELHEAD SMOLT	222	50	172
TROUT	161	119	42
WHITEFISH	748	581	167
KOKANEE	39	33	6
BASS	1	1	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>24,381</b>	<b>19,055</b>	<b>5,326</b>

## CONSERVATION

### Opal Springs Fish Passing Report

Last year an \$11 Million fish ladder was built at the Opal Springs site. A fish camera was installed in the site to photograph all the fish as they passed thru the fish ladder. The chart above shows the total number of fish passing from start of operations on 11/15/19 to 9/20/2020.

While a few adult steelhead pass thru the fish ladder many more other fish use the structure. I was surprised to see the number of Rainbow and Brown Trout. These fish can now move down the stream during low flow in the winter and return upstream to spawn in the high spring flows. Expanding the range of these fish may allow more and larger fish to use the Crooked River.

Time will tell which of these fish will increase in the Crooked River. The Northern Pike Minnow may be a problem. This fish is recognized to prey on small salmon and steelhead smolts in the Columbia River. BPA offers a

\$10 per fish bounty on these fish caught in the Columbia River to protect salmon and steelhead runs. The large number of these fish may explain why only half the smolts survive in the Crooked River compared to Whychus Creek. If the fish ladder can be used to trap these fish and remove them from the river other fish would benefit. Removal of some of the Large Scale Suckers would also make more room for other game fish.

I remember a few years back some food scientists devised a method to convert Northern Pike Minnows to imitation crab meat. A bowfishing carp tournament on the Snake River in Brownlee Dam produced tons of carp for cat food and fertilizer. Using these fish for other purposes may benefit the other game fish and make the fishing opportunities in the Crooked River much better in the future.

- TOM SHUMAN  
MADRASFISH@GMAIL.COM

## OTHER NEWS

# COF Board of Directors 2021 Election & Bylaws Amendment

Our Central Oregon Flyfishers held their 2021 election of officers in November. The following were elected:

### Officers – one-year term....

- President – Tim Quinton
- Vice President – John Howard
- Treasurer – Liz Jones
- Secretary – Kari Schoessler

### Directors – two-year term...

- Sue Coyle (Wild Women of the Water)
- Tom Shuman (Conservation)
- Corol Ann Cary (Member at Large)
- Danny Kara (Member at Large)
- Eric White (Outings)

### The following Directors are continuing and did not need to be voted on...

- Bob Shimane (Membership)
- Frank Turek (Kokanee Karnival)
- Fred Cholick (Next Cast)
- Art Agnew (Programs)

An important position that was not filled is the Education Director, currently filled by Jeff Jones. Jeff announced he would not seek reelection for next year, and we put out the call for a volunteer to fill his spot. No one has come forward, so we are left with deciding whether it would be better for the club to place this extra task on another volunteer (if they choose to accept it), or not have an Education position. This seems a little ridiculous, since one of COF's prime purposes is Education. So, we really need someone to step up and take on this position. Please contact me if you are willing to volunteer for this important position!

And, we are still in need of someone to lead the Banquet efforts. Since we were prevented from conducting our Banquet this year, and probably won't have it next year, this position is not as time-critical as the Education lead. But we've all seen the consequences of not having a Banquet - increased dues, increased member cost for classes, and decreased charitable contributions (to name a few). Ideally, a volunteer (or better yet, several) will step forward and start climbing the knowledge curve now so that they are ready when we are again able to conduct the Banquet.

We also approved an Amendment to the Bylaws... The number of levels of membership were increased from four to six, which was necessitated by breaking Individual/Family memberships into separate levels... The same applies to the Out of Area membership levels. Additionally, the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1 contained titles which were not consistent with the membership level names used in the past several years. The amendment was necessary to reflect the new level names and to bring Article IV, Section 1 current. The approved amendment follows....

### ARTICLE IV: Membership

#### Section 1: Levels and Voting

There shall be six levels of membership:

1. Individual: Includes only the applicant, who is considered one membership with one vote.
2. Family: Includes applicant, his/her spouse and all children under 18 years of age. Together all are considered one membership with one vote.
3. Out of Area – Individual: Includes only the applicant, who resides outside of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties, and who is considered one membership with one vote.
4. Out of Area – Family: Includes applicant, his/her spouse and all children under 18 years of age, who reside outside of Crook, Deschutes and Jefferson counties. Together, all are considered one membership with one vote.
5. Honorary Life Member: Persons elected to this class by either the Regular Membership or the Board of Directors. This would include his/her spouse and all children under 18 years of age. Together, all are considered one membership with one vote.
6. Youth/Next Cast: Non-voting membership without dues payment for persons 25 years of age or younger as of December 31st of the year they join. Youth/Next Cast membership continues as long as the person remains in that age bracket at the time of renewal.

- TIM QUINTON  
CGTIMQ@GMAIL.COM

## Fishing, Environmental Groups Sue Over Umpqua River Dam

WINCHESTER — A coalition of environmental and fishing groups are suing a water district in Douglas County over an aging, privately owned dam that they say hinders the passage of struggling salmon populations in the pristine North Umpqua River.

The lawsuit, filed Friday in U.S. District Court in Eugene, asks a judge to order the Winchester Water Control District to build a new fish ladder and make major repairs to Winchester Dam, which dates to 1890 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The dam is one of the oldest in Oregon.

The aging fish ladder on the 130-year-old dam blocks the progress of migrating Oregon Coast coho salmon — a federally protected species — as well as spring and fall chinook, summer and winter steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific Lamprey, according to the lawsuit. There's also no record that the water district has rights to hold and store water behind the dam under state law, the lawsuit said.

Dominic M. Carollo, the water district's attorney, did not return a call for comment Tuesday.

The North Umpqua River is pristine fish habitat and is cherished by environmentalists and anglers alike, said Jim McCarthy, with WaterWatch of Oregon, one of the plaintiffs. The 167 miles of river above the dam are some of the highest-quality fish habitat in the state, he said, and are a key part of the coastal fishing industry.

The dam's fish ladder includes right-angle turns that create dead ends for fish trying to pass over the dam; fish get stuck in holes that have eroded in the outdated gravel fill; and pieces of metal injure some migrating fish, according to the lawsuit.

The dam significantly reduces the number of young salmon reaching the Pacific Ocean and is preventing returning salmon from reaching spawning grounds in the river above the dam, plaintiffs said.

"The more we learn about this old dam the worse it gets. The fact that every salmon and steelhead passing over this dam risks injury or death by exposed rebar, eroded concrete, or a pollution spill negates our work to protect fish habitat upstream," said Tim Goforth, board president of Steamboaters, another plaintiff.

The Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations also joined in the lawsuit. That's because low numbers of federally protected Oregon Coast coho

salmon can impact the commercial fishery for other types of salmon when numbers of coastal coho drop.

"Fewer coastal coho surviving the impacts of Winchester Dam only exacerbate these already stringent allocation and ocean harvest restriction problems fishing families face up and down the coastline," plaintiffs said in the lawsuit.

The plaintiffs also raised issues about the dam's overall safety for humans, although the lawsuit only seeks to improve passage for fish.

Winchester Dam's condition was downgraded to "poor" last year by state officials who inspected it and found leaks and other issues. It is categorized as "high hazard" by the Oregon Department of Water Resources because of its condition, and repairs to the dam in 2018 led to water contamination downstream that affected drinking water for nearly 40,000 customers, plaintiffs said.

The dam was damaged by a large flood in 1964 and has not been used to generate power for decades. The 17-foot structure spans the entire river and is currently used to maintain a flat-water reservoir for boating and water skiing for an association of local property owners who formed the water district in 1969.

- GILLIAN FLACCUS  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Do Yourself Some Good!

Been thinking about COE, our members, the waters, our donors, and the season. Vaccines are getting ready to bloom, and I'm real ready for next year to be better. Boy howdy, past ready!

Speaking of getting ready brought our fly shop donors to mind. In past years, they sure have done us some real good, in the form of everything from raffle prizes, to fishing reports, to experienced guides or advice, to stocking what we need. Now, they aren't seeing the business they have to have. 2020, who woulda thought we'd have to conserve our fly shops?

Still gotta be smart, pay attention to what's going on, but it would be really good to reinvest in them. Locally. For our own sakes. Think past this year, think we can do this!

It's winter. Time to tie flies, tell stories, and find some good stuff. Hey, Christmas is coming! Gotta have some ideas to give to those pestering you for what you want for Christmas! Or, skip the middle person, and just buy it ahead for yourself and enjoy it when the



weather turns warmer. And look forward to it!!!

Winter fly tying is a natural fit. COWFT is coming, and do those classes or tie your own finds, it's a very good time to stock up on hooks, beads, feathers, fur, trim, and secret stuff. Or just get 'em from the fly shop. Everyone needs flies!

Guides. Whether you're new and have sooo much to learn, or you're old and are sooo tired - they have what you need. In between, they have both!! Set up a trip, even a half day, and do everyone some good! Maaaybe share, maybe not...

Stuff! Oh, wow! Stuff!! Zingers to Biostrike (darn tiny dry flies), lines to Euro nymph kits, rigging holders to rods, Knot Needles to Swiss Multi Clamps, - Stuff!!!

Make your day, and support our local fly shops. Win Win! Oh, and wear your COF hat! If you don't have a hat, wear a name tag!

- JOHN HOWARD

## BOARD BITS

A REVIEW OF THE COF BOD VIRTUAL MEETING - 11/12/2020

Mary is sending out the election slate to all COF members. Eric White has volunteered to be our new outings director. The slate was approved by the BOD. Mary has inputted the new membership system into our website. It now separates individuals from family memberships.

Liz has sent off the COF tax filings.

We are considering finding a new place for monthly in-person meetings (when that happens again). Fred is researching.

Auction - Kari is researching online auction companies. We would still need a director to interface with the online auction company. Any volunteers?

Membership - Bob - 343 members. Liz will have membership numbers every month in her fiscal report.

Programs - Art will have spent \$2150 this year on programs... well below budget. In December, Brian O'Keefe will speak. 2021 is booked through August. Art would like to move on after this upcoming year. Any volunteers? Thank you to Mary for all the help she has given to the presenters.

Education - nothing scheduled. Jeff is looking for a replacement. Any volunteers?

Outings - LeeAnn - outings are done for the year. Our traditional New Year's Day outing is questionable. Eric White has volunteered to be on our BOD and our new outings director. He has been added to our 2021 election slate.

Wild Women of the Water - Sue - Our Oct ZOOM was great! Our Nov ZOOM with Liz is upcoming.

Next Cast - Fred - nothing going on for now.

Conservation - Tom - there is a new Coho season in the Willows. The Deschutes Watershed Council has a new charter. To approve it, we must be a member and we are not. As an organization, we want to know what is going on, but not be a member. Tom will facilitate.

Kokanee Karnival - Frank - nothing going on for now.

Mary Barron is our webmaster. Should this be a board position or continue as a non-board position? Kari will talk to Mary and see what she would like to do.

Amendment to the Bylaws - We are changing our membership levels... separating individual from family. The proposal was sent out to the membership. Now we just need to vote on it. Tim will bring it up at the Nov ZOOM meeting and conduct a vote.

- KARI SCHOESSLER  
SCHOESSLER.KARIVAN@GMAIL.COM

## LIBRARY

COF library services will resume once monthly meetings restart at the Bend Senior Center. Since the center is closed, we are currently unable to access library items stored there.

Our DVD collection and a select number of books, will be available for checkout once monthly meetings resume.

Sign in on our website <https://coflyfishers.wildapricot.org>, click on Members Area and select Library to see a list of our books and DVDs. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to email Helen.

- HELEN GUERRERO-RANDALL

## MEMBERSHIP

# Welcome to Our New Members

**Daniel Doan - Bend**

**Jason Fournelli - Tigard**

**Jeffrey Graham - Lebanon**

**Phil Zulfer - Bend**

As of November 18, 2020, Central Oregon Flyfishers counts a total membership of 364 which comprise Individual 186, Family 127, Out of Area Individual 22, Out of Area Family 7, Honorary Life Members 16 and Youth/Next Cast 6.

Given the new dues structure, those members who wish to change their membership level are encountering some difficulty in this initial renewal process under the new system. It should be squared away by the time you are reading this newsletter, but if it persists please contact Robert Shimane at Membership or Mary Barron at [webmaster@coflyfishers.org](mailto:webmaster@coflyfishers.org).

- ROBERT SHIMANE  
[MEMBERSHIP@COFLYFISHERS.ORG](mailto:MEMBERSHIP@COFLYFISHERS.ORG)

## COF CLASSIFIEDS

**FOR SALE: Two Bucks Bags Brand Mustang Float Tubes, plus fins and booties;** Enjoy Central Oregon's pristine lakes with matching Buck's Bags Mustang float tubes with fins and booties (*same size but pictures make blue tube look bigger*). Have been used less than ½ a dozen times and are in great shape! His and her Christmas gifts perhaps?! \$450 OBO. **Please contact Chris Cooper, [ccoopergolfer@gmail.com](mailto:ccoopergolfer@gmail.com), phone number 541-350-1631.**



**FOR SALE: Hardy Cascapedia MK II, 5/6/7 reel, \$300 or best offer,** Includes weight forward 6 wt. fly line and the original maker's neoprene case. Used only once and in perfect, like-new condition. **Please contact Bruce at [bpv6643@aol.com](mailto:bpv6643@aol.com) for details.**



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## ALMOST THERE BAETIS

This month's fly pattern is the Almost There Baetis. A customer asked me to tie up a few of these for him earlier this year. It looked like a great fly, so I tied a few for me as well.

I used the fly for the first time on the Madison River during our fly fishing road trip. I watched trout rising to dry flies and tied on a small Sparkle Dun BWO. They would look at the Sparkle Dun and swim away. I tied on the Almost There Baetis and watched them move to the fly with purpose and eat it on the first cast! This happened several times.

It made me a believer in the fly.

Since then, I've tried it on occasion on the Metolius with success. I think it will be a good winter fly in other Central Oregon waters as well.

The fly pattern is from Blue Ribbon Flies in West Yellowstone, MT. The Daiichi hook is very small, which is why it works. But know this going in...a size 18 Daiichi 1140 is more like a size 20. These are SMALL flies! Feel free to substitute another dry fly hook. The other tip; use 16/0 thread.

### **Almost There Baetis - Olive:**

**Hook:** Daiichi 1140, #18 - 22

**Thread:** 8/0 Uni-thread or 16/0 olive dun

**Tail:** Wood duck or mallard dyed wood duck

**Body:** Working thread

**Thorax:** Superfine dubbing – olive dun

**Wing:** EP Trigger Point Fibers – BWO

### **Tying Instructions**

1. Start thread on hook at the 50 percent mark.
2. Select 3 – 5 fibers for the tail and tie them on top of the hook extending about a body length for the tail.
3. Wind thread forward with touching turns to a spot above the hook point.
4. Add dubbing to the thread to create a small ball for a thorax. With smaller flies, I use a criss-crossing motion to keep the thorax short. Don't allow it to spread on the hook.
5. Select EP Fibers and tie in directly in front of thorax with 2 or 3 wraps. Pull tag end extending over hook eye up and place 2 additional thread wraps tightly against wing. This technique should lock the wing in place.
6. Use a 5 turn whip finish to complete the fly.

For a link to a Youtube video, be sure to check out my RiverKeeper Flies website ([CLICK HERE](#)). Enjoy...go fish!

- JOHN KREFT  
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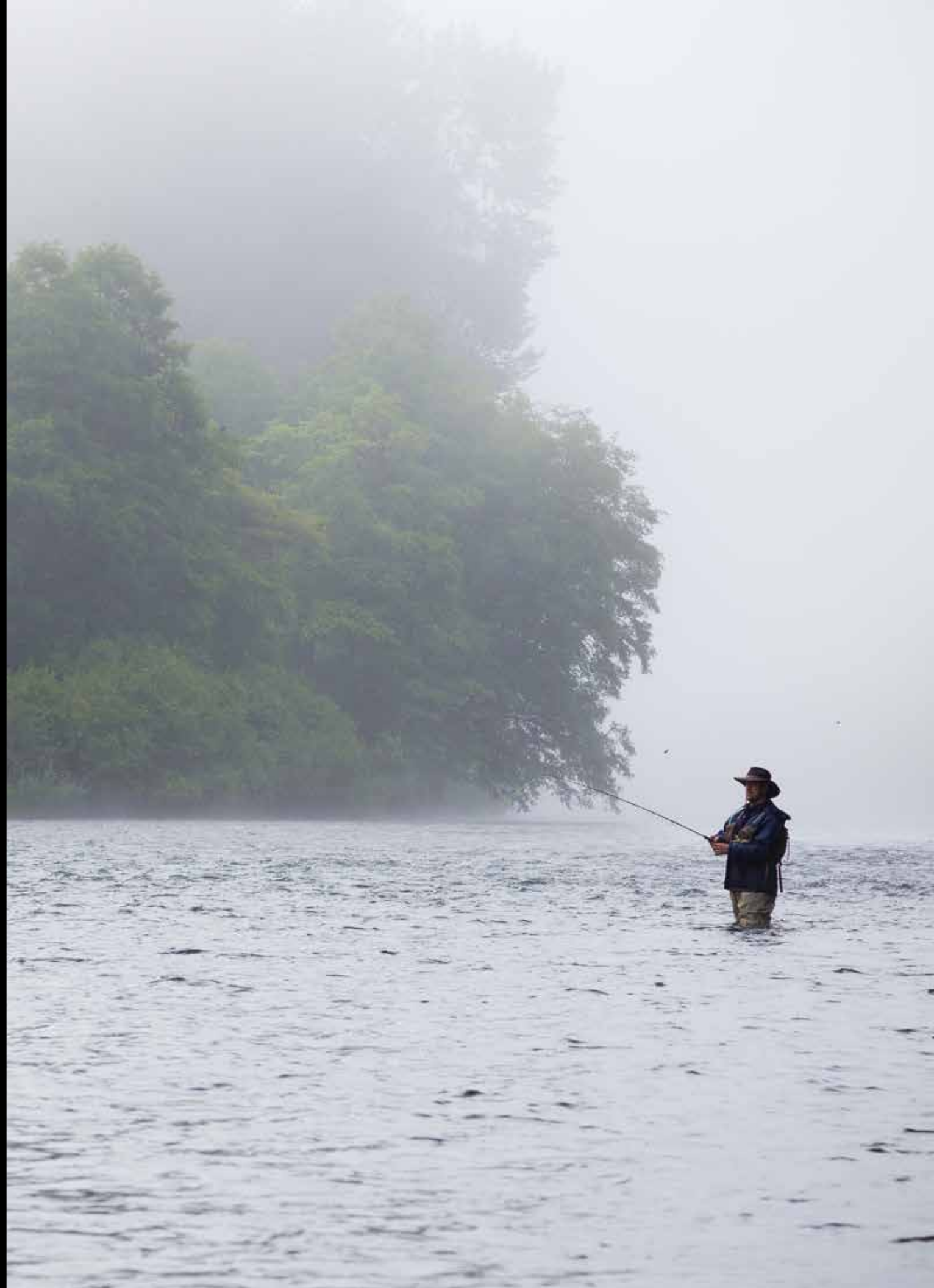
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## NOVEMBER 2020 UPSTREAM EVENTS

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
December 3	ZoomTying @ 5:00PM	Sherry Steele at Steelefly@MSN.com
December 9	WWW Holiday Zoom Social Hour	Sue Coyle
December 10	ZoomTying @ 5:00PM	Sherry Steele at Steelefly@MSN.com
December 10	COF Zoom Board Meeting @ 6:00	
December 16	COF monthly ZOOM meeting @ 7PM	
December 17	ZoomTying @ 5:00PM	Sherry Steele at Steelefly@MSN.com

## In the Future

DATE	ACTIVITY	CONTACT
January 13	WWW Casting for Recovery in Oregon	Sue Coyle
February 24	WWW Bugs & Fly Patterns	Sue Coyle
March 24	WWW Getting Equipment Ready for Fishing Season	Sue Coyle



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