

January 2020 Program



PROGRAM:

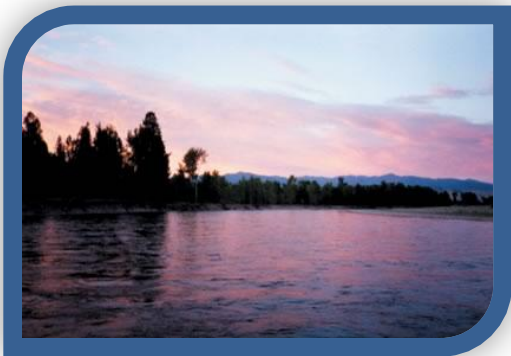
***Rebirth of a River:
Fly Fishing
Montana's Clark
Fork.***

SPEAKER:

EDDIE OLWELL



Eddie Olwell has been fishing most of his life and began fly-fishing at the age of 13 honing his skills on the storied waters of the Catskill Mountains. The quest for trout on the fly has taken him across North America, to New Zealand, and the Patagonia region of Chile. Eddie has fished the waters of western Montana since 1977 and began guiding on them in 1999. In that time he has developed the reputation as an accomplished fisherman, patient instructor, and one of the hardest working guides on the river. Eddie has also been the featured guide on an episode of the long running television show Fly Fishing the World. Eddie has a great passion for rivers and a strong conviction for preserving these cherished resources. He spends much of his free time volunteering with local conservation groups to preserve natural resources and our hunting and fishing heritage. He is an active life member of Trout Unlimited and served two years as president of the Bitterroot chapter, and Former Board Chair of the Bitterroot Water Forum. His efforts in conservation were recognized by the America Fisheries Society which named him "Outstanding Outfitter of the Year" in 2014. Eddie is a certified Wilderness EMT and spends his winters working as an instructor for the Aerie School for Backcountry Medicine, and on the ski patrol at Lost Trail Powder Mountain. His home is in Stevensville in the heart of Montana's Bitterroot Valley.



Clark Fork River: *The Clark Fork of the Columbia is a large trout river by any standard. It gains water from Rock Creek, the Bitterroot and Blackfoot rivers near Missoula, before continuing on its journey to the Pacific. Like the river, the trout of the Clark Fork are large and challenging. You can cast to pods of rising rainbow trout with small dry flies. The proper fly presented naturally will be rewarded with fish over 17 inches with some topping 20 (that is if you can land them). The Clark Fork begins to fish well in July but our favorite time is fall when the water cools and mayflies' hatches are plentiful.*