"Fly Fishers of the Bitterroot is a nonprofit club dedicated to sharing our passion for fly fishing by promoting fellowship, education and stewardship of our fishing resources."

www.flyfishersofthebitterroot.org



SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

A letter from your EDITOR

It isn't often that I "write" to you members as your editor but heavens know I have as a President, events coordinator and as the only one who has an official soapbox!

As we all spread out for summer fun, fishing, hiking, birding or whatever you find as an enjoyable way to spend time hope you spent some of this time thinking about the club and its future. The Board has asked numerous times for help. A few of you have stepped forward to help, but more commitment is needed to keep this club going.

In 2019 I told you that I was I personally shouldering way too much—not healthy for me and dangerous position for the club to be in to have so much dependent on one person. I have made the decision to step down as the Editor and off the Board. It is time for someone else to take the reins. My last edition will be the December 2020 newsletter.

There are <u>OVER 100 of you</u> out there—figure out how each one of you can help! I do not want a lot from anyone, but I do need a little from each one of you. I believe in the club, but it takes a community of people to keep it going.

You do not need to be on the Board to help. As a matter of fact, most stuff should happen outside the Board with only a liaison need to report progress back to the Board. FFB's "Official Playbook" is nearly done—job descriptions are available for all positions and SOPs are done for our events.

Whether you choose to help by joining the Board, selling raffle tickets at a meeting, helping at sign in at our monthly meeting or a special event, setting up or cleaning up at an outing, acting as an organizational chair for an event or outing, coming up with a program, or something else—participate!

2020 was and continues to be, a tough year for everyone. "Our society is suffering from the grief of loss of normalcy". Life will never be what it was, but it can be good and rewarding again.

As always, Estelle 406-381-0474 je@shuttleworthje.com

> "Destiny is not a matter of chance. It is a matter of choice. It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved."
> (William Jennings Bryan, 1899)

Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside

In a cloud of smoke, thoroughly used up, totally worn out, and loudly proclaiming

"Wow! What a Ride!"

Julianne Marie Shoush 7/5/1943-8/20/2020







HI. This is Carol. I am sharing things on Julie's page to ensure that her friends get to share in pieces and special times of her life. My hope is to provide a visual picture of a person who truly had 'a life well lived.'

Fishing, food and fun were things that were important to Julie. She shared her love of fishing with many of us. She even taught my dog to love fish and seafood.

Julie liked anything with wheels, or a motor, or on the water. One of the things I loved about her was her enjoyment of the rumble of that big block motor in the ski boat. When Julie wanted to waterski, her idea of coming out of the water was like a cannon shot. 'Just floor it until I'm up then back off.' No pressure on me at all. If you were going to ski behind her boat, you better get a good grip.





"GREASE, SUGAR, SALT AND ALCOHOL"





"The wind was blowing up the Bitterroot Valley, and the leaves of the cottonwoods trembled with silver in the bright air. I watched the fields of hay and cattle move by and the log ranch houses chinked with mortar, and the drift of smoke from a small forest fire high on a blue mountain. The creek beds that crossed under the road were alive with hatching insects, and the pebbles along the sandy banks glistened wet and brown in the sun. Damn, Montana was a beautiful part of the country, I thought. It reached out with its enormous sky and mountains and blue-green land and it hit you like a fist in the heart. You simply became lost in looking at it."

James Lee Burke, The Lost Get-Back Boogie



We lost a good person, I lost a new found friend.... ELS







FISH REPORTS AND KODAK MOMENTS

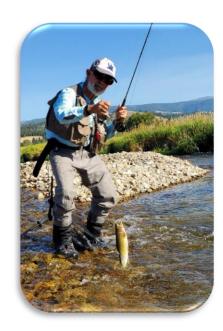
8/1/2020: Wonderful day on the Root today...they still love that Purple Chubby!- Bob Miller







Greg B. with a nice brown







Gary K- Georgetown



Guess who!!!!

"The best time to go fishing is when you can get away." Robert Traver

"Fishing is much more than fish. It is the great occasion when we may return to the fine simplicity of our forefathers." Herbert Hoover

Club members Peg Miskin and Sally Roberts recently fished the North Platte out of Casper, WY along with 3 other women anglers. Ugly Bug Fly Shop provided great guides as the group floated 3 different sections on the Grey Reef stretch of the river. Two other days they wade fished Miracle Mile and the Fremont Canyon meadow stretch. Hoppers had already come and gone so the nymphs came out. Keep in mind you can fish 3 flies in Wyoming so their skills to cast a bobber, weight, and 3 nymphs was put to the test! Only 1% of the fish on the N Platte are said to be browns, but Peg and Sally proved otherwise with 3 caught between then that week.



"The question about wind in Wyoming isn't, Will it blow? but rather, How hard and from what direction? I've learned that when I cross the Colorado line into Wyoming, I have to ditch the brimmed fishing hat--never mind the sunburned ears--and screw on a baseball cap adjusted one size too small."

John Gierach, Still Life with Brook Trout, 2005

So, those who know me know I'm not big on fishing but do love going along on a float, seems I usually end up out on those blazing hot days in August where all I think about is jumping in the water to cool off.

Since 2020 decided to be difficult I thought why not try something new? The first few outings were before runoff, just me and Steve in our raft, I asked if I could row some because like what, this is hard...?...ummm, yeah, it is hard - I'm pretty sure Steve didn't enjoy those 360s down the river while I was rowing but we've been married long enough for him to know to not say anything, plus he knows if I learn how to row he can fish more...

Then on a few recent trips down the West Fork and Main Stem with our good friend Kevin Schuland guiding this happened: I decided instead of going along for the ride I would try some fishing, as we pushed off from the put in I caught a fish...a nice one...a really nice one actually. After Kevin/Steve took it off the hook (cause I really don't like to touch them) we proceeded on and I caught another...and another, and another....holy cow...whaaat, this is hard...?! I won't go on and on but lemme just say the days were like that...whities (just a couple), cutties, bows, browns, some

whales... So, I totally understand you fisher people now, I had a really good time and Steve and Kevin finally convinced me to take a couple of photos so here are a couple of the smaller ones...hey, who doesn't like a good fish story? - Diane Davis



NEWS AND NOTES

TOXIC ALGAL BLOOMS IN KLAMATH RIVER

In recent years toxic algal blooms have developed in the Klamath River system in northern California. Harmful algae can travel downriver for 180 miles in a few days and survives passage through hydroelectric turbines. It's a health risk to humans and animals and cannot be destroyed by boiling. It causes liver damage, rashes and gastrointestinal problems. The algae is a species of cyanobacteria (microcystis acrugenosa) and turns the water a bright green. Don't drink it! Don't touch it!

In 1906 the Klamath Project (federal) began draining wetlands for agriculture and then began building dams for reclamation. That aided agriculture but negatively impacted the Karuk Tribe, which had survived efforts by white Californians to exterminate the Indian population during the 19th century. The Karuks have annual ceremonies that are held in the river to celebrate the river. Concerned about the bright green color of the water, tribal officials sent water samples for testing in 2004. The response from the laboratory was dramatic: "We don't know where you got that water, but do not touch it." In 2007 the tribe, joined by conservationists and fishers, brought suit against California regulators for failing to prevent PacifiCorp, a

power company that supplies electricity to parts of six western states, from releasing toxins into the river. The tribe won the case, and in 2016 PacifiCorp agreed to transfer several dams to the Klamath River Renewal Corporation, which then would remove the dams. In 2020 the federal government intervened to prevent dam removal, so the legal fight in ongoing. If the Karuks prevail, they would cause the largest dam removal in U.S. history.

SALMON SANCTUARY IN KLAMATH RIVER SYSTEM

In 2018 the Western Rivers Conservancy concluded a ten-year effort to create a salmon sanctuary in Blue Creek, the most important cold-water tributary of the Klamath River. The Klamath once was the third largest producer of salmon on the west coast, and Blue Creek provides high quality spawning habitat. Using creative fund raising, the conservancy acquired 47,000 acres and then returned this part of their ancestral homeland to the Yurok Tribe to manage the land, improve fish habitat and to create a salmon sanctuary. For more information on fund raising techniques and river projects go to westernrivers.org.

LITTLE SUR RIVER

The Little Sur River is an example of the many small coastal streams that provided spawning habitat for steelhead, but it's unique in that it still hosts spawning runs. The Esselen Tribe, Western Rivers Conservancy and California Natural Resources Agency just completed the purchase of a 1,199-acre ranch in the Big Sur area that includes old growth redwoods and oak and one mile of the Little Sur River. Ownership of the land went to the Esselen Tribe, giving the tribe the first ownership of a part of their traditional homeland since the Spanish displaced them some 250 years ago.

FFB members may have noticed that news items in a number of newsletters over the past several years have mentioned the role of tribal governments in protecting and improving fisheries. The involvement of tribal governments in conservation issues is a relatively recent development and is the result of the maturation of those governments. During the 19th century the goal of U.S. Indian policy was the destruction of tribal government and culture and the Americanization of American Indians so that Indian people would be assimilated into American society and Indianness would disappear. That changed in 1934 with passage of the Indian Reorganization Act, which encouraged the creation of tribal governments but in an American or non-Indian format of elected chairman and council. As might be expected, those new tribal governments were easily manipulated by federal officials, but time and experience, education, military service and other factors, especially an independent tribal income from casinos, has enabled tribal governments to mature and to reject federal manipulation and control. Many tribes now have active fish and game departments and pursue their national (meaning tribal) interest. Thus, the Nez Perce have provided positive leadership in issues involving the upper Snake and Clearwater rivers, Michigan tribes had an important role in the grayling restoration program in the northern part of that state, and the Karuk and Esselen tribes are involved in the Klamath and Little Sur Rivers.

AUSTRALIAN WILDFIRES

A new study concludes that nearly three billion animals were killed or displaced by the 2019 fires in Australia. That breaks down to about 143 million mammals, 2.46 million reptiles, 180 million birds, and 51 million frogs. Some 28.3 million acres burned. To better understand that 640 acres equals one square mile. The authors conclude, "This ranks as one of the worst wildlife disasters in modern history," and note that the survivors face lack of food and shelter, increased competition for resources and stress.

EXTREME HEAT IN THE NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

An unusual heat wave impacted Siberia during the first half of 2020, causing wildfires and melting permafrost. The town of Verkhoyansk, north of the Arctic Circle, recorded a temperature of 38 C (100.4 F).

The summer heat wave in western and central Europe brought temperatures into the high 90s F and low 100s. Paris recorded 103.1 F on July 31.

Canada's last intact ice shelf recently collapsed. Located off the northwest edge of Ellesmere Island, the ice sheet split in two. One piece is about the size of Manhattan and is up to 260 feet thick. Climate scientists state that the Arctic is warming faster than the rest of the world. Roughly 140 years ago an American expedition sailed to the northern part of Ellesmere Island. Led by Lieutenant Adolphus Greeley, the expedition reached Lady Franklin Bay on Ellesmere Island in 1881 but got trapped by sea ice. Efforts to resupply the expedition failed in 1882 and 1883 because of ice. The seven survivors of the twenty-five-man command were finally rescued in 1884.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME ANNOUNCEMENT

In July the Department of Fish and Game announced that it had euthanized 3.2 million pounds of trout at three hatcheries because of an outbreak of Lactococcus garvieae, a bacteria that can cause bulging eyes, erratic swimming and increased mortality. The bacteria is a new and unwanted arrival in California and was discovered in the Black Rock and Fish Springs hatcheries in the Owens Valley and the Mojave River hatchery in Victorville. The state tried several treatment methods but discovered that there was no known way to eliminate it without depopulation and disinfection. So far, the bacteria, which is related to streptococcus, has not appeared in fish in lakes, but fish from the three hatcheries were planted in lakes before the disease was identified.

In other California news a wild tom turkey that hangs around a park in Oakland suddenly has become aggressive and has attacked people. Attacks by Gerald, as locals have named him, eventually caused officials to close the park. Efforts to "retrain" Gerald and then to trap and relocate him failed. Some residents suggested posting "wanted signs" offering a reward of \$2.00 a pound. As of today, Gerald still roams the neighborhood as king of the roost.

DEATH VALLEY REACHES 130 F

Death Valley recently recorded a temperature of 130 Fahrenheit, which probably is a new record high for the world as two previous higher temperatures in the Valley are considered suspect by climatologists. As I write this on Aug. 23, the Valley is having a cool spell with a predicted high of 119 F for today and for the next three days.

GREENLAND MELTS

Recent studies show that during 2019 Greenland set a record for ice loss. Satellite measurements indicate that 586 billion tons of ice melted during 2019, which equals 140 trillion gallons. That is enough water to cover the state of California 4 feet deep. Scientists believe that a tipping point has been reached and that if global warming stopped today, the Greenland ice sheet would continue to melt.

PEBBLE MINE

The Army Corps of Engineers just issued a final environmental impact statement on Pebble Mine and concluded that the mine would cause damage to Bristol Bay in Alaska by failing to meet Clean Water Act requirements. The Corps gave the mine 90 days to respond, and the mine has announced its intention to respond. While the Corps' decision is good news it does not in any way favorably terminate the Pebble Mine issue. A veto by EPA is required to do that.

SNAKE RIVER DAM DECISION

Previous newsletters have covered issues related to four dams on the lower Snake River that have had a devastating effect on salmon and steelhead runs and on the survival of those species. The Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration recently issued a final environmental impact statement regarding the dams and concluded that they will not be removed. However, this is not a final solution to the Snake River dams issue as federal courts previously have rejected federal plans to preserve salmon and steelhead as inadequate. Expect that environmental groups, tribes and other organizations will take this back to court.

On Monday, August 24th, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that the Pebble Mine does not meet Clean Water Act standards, a significant setback for the Pebble Partnership's bid for a federal permit.

This is a good week for Bristol Bay, Alaska; for the largest sockeye-salmon run on Earth; for the American businesses, Native and local Alaskan communities that it sustains; and for hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts.

On Monday, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced that the Pebble Mine does not meet Clean Water Act standards and cannot be granted its federal permit based on the current proposal.

This is certainly a decision worth celebrating together.

While this is not a full denial—the Pebble Partnership could still receive a permit—it is a significant setback for the mine. The Partnership has 90 days to submit their plans to fully mitigate all direct and indirect adverse impacts this enormous mine would have on the Bristol Bay region, an area roughly the size of Ohio.



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Torrey here, getting back to it on a Tuesday! This week we are out on a local big river again, checking out another fascinating feature of an active river floodplain.

This photo shows why erosion and deposition (the flagship features of an active floodplain) are vital to creating the wonderful cottonwood forests along Montana's iconic rivers. Cottonwood seeds need freshly deposited gravel to germinate, and good gravel deposits only form in areas where the river is allowed to erode banks. Remember, what is eroded from an outside bend of a river is deposited on an inside bend somewhere downstream, and those deposition areas are prime germinating grounds for cottonwoods. As the river itself migrates away from the deposition area, the cottonwoods become established, growing everlonger roots to continue reaching the river's water table.

The photo above showcases an inside bend on a local active floodplain. You can easily see the different age classes of cottonwoods as you move further and further away from the river channel. At one point, those towering cottonwoods in the background were just like the little ones in the foreground, doing there darndest to grow in some newly deposited gravel right along the riverbank. As the river continues to migrate, eating away at the bank on the opposite side of the river, it leaves behind a history of the river's migration written in the ages of the cottonwoods.

Multi-age cottonwood stands provide essential resources for a huge number of fish and wildlife species, and also provide the majority of large wood falling into rivers that perform a wide variety of ecological functions (e.g., log jams https://bit.ly/3ljBkl2 https://bit.ly/2EyLxsY). Big, healthy cottonwood forests can develop if the river still floods (meaning it is not entirely dam-controlled) and provided bank hardening has not robbed the river of the sediment it needs to form gravel bars for the little cottonwoods to grow upon. Compare your local active river floodplain to one that is heavily rip-rapped and/or dam-controlled, and you will notice the

rip-rapped/dammed river has old-age cottonwood stands with little or no new cottonwoods coming in. I shudder to think of the future of those rivers when the remaining cottonwoods succumb to old age and topple over with nothing to replace them. Many of the western rivers will never be the same.

 $Big, be autiful\ cotton wood\ forests\ for\ generations\ to\ come, just\ another\ one\ of\ the\ hundreds\ of\ important$

things brought to us by active floodplains!



#TuesdayswithTorrey #Riversneedtomove

2020 FFB CLUB OUTINGS SCHEDULE

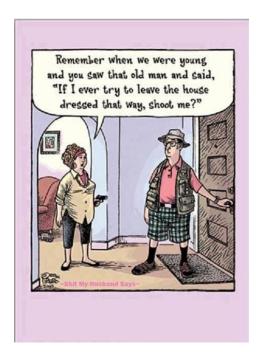
October 6th- club meeting—Denver Holt- Owl talk—Cancelled for now, maybe 2021???

November 3rd – club meeting- Fishing Photography- Jessica Richardson—on hold for now.......

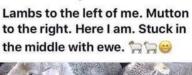
December 1st- Annual club Meeting & elections & holiday party----stay tuned......

"It's the knots that tie themselves that everybody sees as a plague, a pox on the house of fly fishing. But they're unavoidable. Even the truly great fishermen cast knots in their lines from time to time. The difference is the great ones call these "wind knots," disentangling themselves from culpability. Blaming the wind and getting away with it is one of those clever joys fishermen get to know about as they grow into things." Jeff Hull, Streams of Consciousness, 2007

"I cast and caught a bulge in the current and my fly rod rode its dome. I could distinctly see my fly, a Pale Evening Dun, floating draggles and for a moment that seemed all that mattered- a fly borne on a current, colored by autumn. Next came a subtle strike, graceful and slow as a dolphin rolling. Just before the fish broke the surface, I caught the movement, then heard the tiny accent in the rhythmic tinkling of the current, and saw a flash of bronze rolling away. I struck back." Jeff Hull, Streams of Consciousness, 2007















I've finally told my suitcases there will be no holiday this year.

Now I'm dealing with the emotional baggage...

Be careful when you follow the masses ...sometimes the "M" is silent!

I NEVER CALLED
YOU STUPID, BUT
WHEN I ASKED YOU
TO SPELL "ORANGE"
AND YOU ASKED ME
THE FRUIT OR COLOR
IT KINDA CAUGHT
ME OFF GUARD.

The Fact That There's A
HIGHWAY TO HELL
And Only A
STA/RWAY TO HEAVEN
Says A Lot About Anticipated
Traffic Numbers.

WHY DO EGGS COME
IN FLIMSY STYROFOAM
CARTONS AND
BATTERIES COME IN A
PACKAGE ONLY A
CHAINSAW CAN OPEN?



Three simple rules in life.

- 1. If you don't go after what you want, you'll never have it.
- 2. If you don't ask, the answer is always no.
- 3. If you don't step forward, you're always in the same place.

By LIFE















Life is too short......

Life is too short to wake up with regrets.

So love the people who treat you right.

Forget about the ones who don't.

Believe everything happens for a reason.

If you get a chance, take it & if it changes your life, let it.

Sherman_Beardman 1.3k points 2 years ago

The fact that Kansas and Arkansas are pronounced differently bothers me way more than it should.

madamplease 13.7k points 1 year ago

Pronouncing words that end in 'ough'. Cough, bough, rough, dough, through, though....

Vaxtin 4.7k points 4 years ago

Is the "S" or "C" in scent silent?

AdventurousMan 4,6k points 4 years ago

Why does fridge have a "D" in it, but refrigerator doesn't?

Djimmleboy 248 points 1 year ago

Why are Zoey and Zoe pronounced the same but Joey and Joe aren't?

MundaneRiot 261 points 4 years ago

You can drink a drink but you can't food a food.

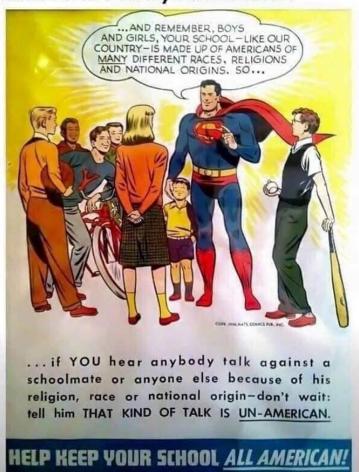
cherlishPanda 218 points 4 years ago

The word "queue" is just a Q followed by four silent letters

saranowitz 1 point 10 years ago

Why is a "w" called a "Double-U" when it is clearly a "Double-V"?

This Superman Poster From The 1950's Is Pretty Awesome.



SOMETIMES I SIT QUIETLY
AND WONDER WHY
I'M NOT IN A MENTAL ASYLUM...
THEN IT TAXE A LOOK AROUND AND REALITYE...
MAYBE IT ALREADY AM.

I think the real reason this generation is so angry is because their music sucks.





Someone posted they had just baked some synonym buns. I replied, you mean just like the ones grammar use to make?

Now I'm blocked.

MAYBE IF WE START TELLING PEOPLE THE BRAIN IS AN APP, THEY'LL START USING IT.

"Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it, but while I drink, I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its current slides away, but eternity remains. I would drink deeper, fish in the sky, whose bottom is pebbly with stars."

Thoreau



Last week Water Forum staff assisted in a study up the East Fork of the Bitterroot. The question is how beaver dams affect the movement of Bull trout in a stream.

Recently, restoration techniques mimicking beaver activity have grown in popularity. These techniques involve building a structure similar to a beaver dam, often called Beaver Dam Analog structures (BDAs).



Some of the benefits of BDAs are slowing down the flow of the water better connecting streams to their floodplains recharging the aquifer/re-wetting the soil sponge adding complexity to the stream (ie. meanders, braids, etc.)

Some studies have looked at the effects of beaver dams on fish, but none focused on Bull trout. As a threatened species, Bull trout have more protections and currently BDAs are not permitted in streams known to have Bull trout populations. This study, by graduate students at the University of Utah, will look at Bull trout movement around a natural beaver complex to see if further research on Bull trout and BDAs is possible.

We are excited to work together on this topic and interested to learn about the findings! Lots of exciting things happening in the next week! Keep reading to learn more.

Take care, Katie Vennie, Communications + Outreach Manager

Thank you everyone who made it out for the Bitterroot River Clean Up and/or Run for the River 5K!



We had 90 volunteers pull 2,152 pounds of trash from the Bitterroot River on Saturday! Most people reported seeing less trash overall but there were some great finds! Folks who participated in the Run for the River 5K enjoyed their time running or walking along the Bitterroot River through River and Skalkaho Bend Parks.

2020 schedule

Oct 12th Board meeting ???????

Nov 3rd club meeting ??????

Nov 9th Board meeting ????????

Dec 1st ANNUAL MEETING ?????????

Dec 7th Board meeting ??????????

2021 schedule—stay tuned!

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phil Romans- President
Pierre Satkowiak-Secretary
Ken Quinn-Treasurer
Bob Miller- Programs
Daneel Kuzaro –PR
Leon Powell- Roster
Gary Kosaka-WebMaster
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Name tags and lanyards are ready and are at the check in table. If you need a name tag please contact Estelle at <u>je@shuttleworthje.com</u>

The club's membership period is January 1st to December 31st of each year.

Individual: \$ 25.00 Family: \$35.00

A Family is 2 people in a domestic relationship and their children under 18 years of age.

Newsletter Editor: Estelle Shuttleworth

je@shuttleworthje.com 406-381-0474



I hate telling people I'm a taxidermist.

When they ask what I do everyday, I say:

"Y'know. Stuff."