



NEW MEXICO TROUT

Newsletter

Dec 2011

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When It Rains, It Pours

Don't get me wrong, I'm not complaining. In fact, just the opposite. We have been looking for a Secretary for quite a while. At our last monthly meeting, Bob Widgren made his usual plea to the folks in attendance. Lo and behold a gentleman pops up and accepts the position. Let me introduce you to the new club secretary, Mr. John Johnson. If the name is familiar, it might be because John served on the Board as the Public Relations representative from 2001-2007. Welcome John!

Okay, now to the "pours" part of the saying above. At the same monthly meeting, Bob also asked if there might be anyone interested in filling the soon to be vacant board position of Treasurer. Shazam, another gentleman comes forward. Mr. John Griffen has agreed to fill the ever so important treasurers slot. He will assume the position on January 1st. Thank you John!

I would like to recognize the dedicated service of our outgoing treasurer, Lee Widgren who has held the position for many years. Lee has been involved with NM Trout for as long as I can remember. Thank you Lee!

As some of you might have heard, Trout Unlimited is starting a local chapter based in Albuquerque. Questions abound as to how this will affect NM Trout. I was invited to the initial planning meeting which I attended. As it turned out the meeting was a productive, cordial event. More on this next month.

I would be remiss if I didn't take the time to wish you all Happy Holidays. Here's hoping everybody has a very Merry Christmas as well as a happy, prosperous New Year.

CYa,
Pat Mileschosky

Project Healing Waters (PHW) Fly Fishing Update

by Dave Patton

NMT is wrapping up its third year of support to wounded warriors and veterans through the PHW program we sponsor. We work very closely with the Albuquerque Veteran's Administration Medical Center to identify participants and they support our program by offering the Recreation Hall for fly tying and the grounds for casting.

Our first year's program started in June 2009 and consisted of four three-week sessions of fly tying, casting, and fishing. We have evolved into what is essentially a year round program that begins in February with fly tying during the colder winter months, fly casting as things begin to warm up, and group and individual fly fishing outings that begin in June and end in November. We wrap up each year by tying flies and hanging them inside clear balls for the Christmas tree.



NMT's PHW 2011 program touched over 50 veterans this year at various tying, casting, and fishing outings. Our group fishing outings are conducted at the Brush Ranch on the Pecos, which is an amazingly therapeutic venue. The owners of the Brush Ranch are exceptionally generous to our program and we could not do what we do without them. We had individual outings at the Pecos Historical Park for the first time this year, but our use of this location was cut short by the fires this summer and low water conditions. As a result, we visited the San Juan with veterans five times starting in August. The pictures in this article are from our last trip to the San Juan. We had additional support for the second year in a row from Heads Up Fly Fishing and guide **Ryan McRorie** (970 984-8433, mail@headsupflyfishing.com) provided his boat and services to our program. Ryan, whose dad is a retired Marine, is a great guide with outstanding knowledge of the river and just the right touch with veterans.



Our program got a big boost when NMT member **Jena Wilmoth**, with some help from **Brian Beaudoin**, also an NMT member, obtained a program-altering donation of \$5,432 from the national Elks Lodge organization. We are using these funds to purchase much improved tying vises and tools and fly rods for our program. Thank them on behalf of New Mexico Trout when you see them at a meeting or the coming 2012 Conclave. NMT's PHW program is going great, but we can always use a few more volunteers.

If you want to participate in the program as a volunteer, please contact me, Dave Patton, at pattondj1@hotmail.com or call me at 505.681.0835 (c)/505.294.1807 (h). More information at <http://newmexicotrout.org/outreach-projects/healing-waters>

Membership Renewal

Bob Widgren, Membership Chair

It's that time again...time to renew your New Mexico Trout membership. NMT's memberships are based on the calendar year; January to December. There are a variety of levels of membership:

- Regular - \$30
- Family - \$35
- Junior - \$15
- Lifetime - \$500
- Individual sponsor - \$60



- Business - \$150
- Corporate sponsor - \$250

Note: If you have already received your 2012 membership card or are a NMT Life member; you Do Not need to renew. If you're not sure, email us at newmexicotrout@gmail.com.

You can join or renew your membership in two ways: send in payment with a membership form, or online through the NMT PayPal account (you do not need to have a PayPal account; we accept Visa, MasterCard and American Express).

Follow this link for information & renewal: [Membership Renewal](#)

We would appreciate your effort to pay online as it will be 'The Green Thing To Do' and will save money in our mailings, postage and printing costs. Thank you.

Active members regularly participate in a variety of educational activities that include:

- Monthly meetings
- Annual educational conclaves
- Fishing clinics and fly-tying workshops
- Conservation & habitat protection and enhancement projects

All of these sessions provide opportunities for members to get together. New flyfishers meet more experienced fishers. People find others with similar interests. We welcome your renewal and thank you for your continued support.

After you have renewed, your 2012 membership card will be mailed to you.

NM Game and Fish News

New Mexico Game and Fish Department (NMGFD) have been active in Winter stocking of rainbow and triploid rainbow trout. Over the past week alone, nearly 25,000 fish have been stocked in area lakes, ponds, ditches and streams. Over the past month, nearly 70,000 fish have been stocked. More at <http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/recreation/fishing/index.htm>.

As part of the planned restoration of the native Rio Grande cutthroat to the Costilla river basin, in August, NMGFD applied CFT Legumine (Rotenone) to Casias Creek, a tributary of Costilla Reservoir, to eliminate non-native fish species. Rotenone is a naturally occurring compound that is derived from the roots of a tropical plant of the bean family. Rotenone compounds have been used by people worldwide for centuries to stun and kill fish for food. CFT Legumine is a commercially available formulation of rotenone.

NMGFD says Eagle Nest Lake is half-covered with ice and is closed to boating for the season, although the lake is open for bank fishing where there is open water. Ice fishing will be allowed as soon as officials determine the ice is safe for walking and angling, at least nine inches thick.

Fly of the Month - Christmas Tree Chironomid

Pattern and Notes by Rick Passek

Photograph by Hans Weilenmann

Used by permission

Hook: Size 8-16 Swimming Nymph hook

Bead: White Tungsten Bead

Thread: Olive Green 8/0 Uni

Rib: Extra small gold wire

Abdomen: Tying thread

Thorax: Peacock dubbing

Thorax: Loctite Brushable Super glue



I use this fly primarily under a strike indicator. When using it, I try to allow the fly to sink to the set depth, and instead of a REALLY slow retrieve I do a slightly quicker Figure 8 retrieve, as well as a good hard "POP" from time to time to impart some extra life in the fly. Once the "POP" has been done, I allow it to sit for a few seconds, give it a smaller "POP" and then continue with the figure 8 retrieve. I tie it on sizes 8-16, with 12-14 being the most productive.

More flies by Rick are at <http://www.danica.com/flytier/rpassek/rpassek.htm> and <http://www.theflyfishfanatic.com>

More NM Trout patterns at <http://newmexicotrout.org/archives/category/fly-patterns>

Fly Tying Material Shortages

A recent fashion trend is causing shortages of critical fly tying materials, much to the consternation of fly fishers who are settling into their winter routine of building flies for the coming year. Interest in feather jewelry has erupted into a full-on fad for hair extensions made out of long, slender feathers, exactly those premium hackle feathers used to dress dry flies. The essential tying materials are harvested from roosters painstakingly bred to grow long, supple feathers with nearly uniform barb lengths. It takes more than a year for a rooster to grow feathers long and pliable enough for use by fly fishermen. A recent [NYTimes article](#) quoted Thomas Whiting, the owner of Whiting Farms, the country's largest hackle producer, as saying the company stopped taking new accounts several months ago after being unable to fulfill orders for current customers. Mr Whiting estimates that about one-fifth of their feathers are used for "fashion fodder."



NMT Fashions

New Mexico Trout fashionistas know that comfortable, practical and stylish clothing is always in fashion, and clothing that shows you are a member of an exclusive and prestigious organization is even more trendy. So get on board with your sartorial club members, and update your wardrobe with these offerings from New Mexico Trout. These items also make great gifts for all your family and friends - just in time for Christmas. Order soon, as prices may increase in coming months!

Hats, one size fits all - \$15
Colors Dark Olive, Black, Tan



Fleece jackets with windproof lining, sizes Small through XXL - \$40
Colors Olive, Black

Shirts, cotton with mesh vents, sizes Small through XXL - \$30
Colors Dark Olive, Light Olive, Tan

Short sleeve V-neck shirts with a pocket, White - \$10

NMT embroidered badges - \$2

All items are available at regular NMT meetings and at the Conclave. You can also place an order by calling Bob Day at 881-2738, or sending an email to abqbob410@msn.com
You can pick up your order at Los Pinos Fly Shop.

Calendar

NMT General Meeting

13 Dec 2011, 7:30pm

Sandia Prep - Commons Room

Jeff Powell will give a presentation on the Mora National Fish Hatchery and Gila trout restoration and recovery mission.

<http://newmexicotrout.org/get-involved/meetings>

Fly Tyer's Roundtable

Every Monday, 7:00pm excluding holidays

Sandia Prep Lab classroom

The Flytyer's Roundtable brings new and experienced tyers together to exchange ideas, techniques and materials.

NMTrout Business Sponsors

Yearly business membership entails the sponsor to a link on the NMT Newsletter. Contact the membership chair for more information if you or a business owner you know would like to become a sponsor.

[Land of Enchantment Guides](#)

Charlie's Sporting Goods

[Bruce Taylor Studio](#)

[KKOB 770](#)

[Solitary Angler](#)

[James E. Lucero Insurance Agency](#)

[M & W Bar Ranch](#)

[Los Pinos Fly Shop](#)

[Jicarilla Game and Fish](#)

[Patagonia Clothing](#)

[Rio Costilla Park](#)

Francis Peter

[San Miguel River Products](#)

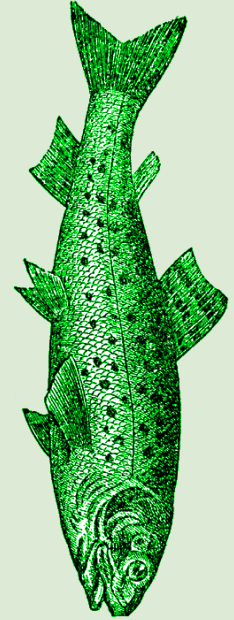
[Jiffy Lube](#)

[An Anglers Bookcase](#)

Jim Young

[Orvis Company](#)

[Wild Earth Llama Adventures](#)



About Us

New Mexico Trout is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of trout fishing in New Mexico's waters through restoration of riparian habitats and through education of the public about trout fishing and the value of trout habitats. New Mexico Trout is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization, and we welcome your tax deductible contributions.



Comments/Suggestions

If you have comments or suggestions about the Newsletter, or an article you would like to submit, please email to newmexicotrout@gmail.com. Articles will be considered based on suitability, general interest and succinctness (please limit content to approximately 500 words). Deadline for the next issue is 30 Dec.