

The Leader



Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers ♦ *December 2024*
Volume XLVII ♦ *Number 12* ♦ www.dallasflyfishers.org



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL

On The Water

by Dave Smith

The holiday season is here with Thanksgiving followed by Christmas and then the New Year will be here. We now have time to look back on the past year and all that has happened. I hope you will have a chance to spend time with family and friends during the holiday season.

My first year as Club President is almost complete. I was not sure what to expect at the start but here we are the first year

almost behind us. I would like to thank all the members who helped me along the way. Special thanks goes out to members who helped me get through it all. Julia Bell who guided me on what needed to be done during the year. Jeff Ziehm who got me through my computer problems. Dan Montayne who had held the office before and gave me an overall view on how to do what needed to be done.

A number of our members have delt with health problems this past year. I hope you are doing better in the weeks

ahead as we look forward to seeing you back at the meetings in the New Year.

It's the time of year for all you fly fishers to let Santa know what you would like. I hope you all have been good so Santa may bring that special thing you want. All the best for the holiday season.

Till next time hope to see you on the water or at the tying bench.

Dave Smith
President, Dallas FlyFishers



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DFF Program Schedule

by Danny Soltau

For the December meeting, we will be celebrating the Holiday Season with one another at a new-to-us location, Besa's Italian Restaurant at 7602 N Jupiter Rd, Garland, TX 75044. We will be served traditional, delicious Italian food buffet-style by Al Besa and his staff. Al uses recipes passed to him from his Italian grandmother and mother, so we're in for some true

Italian cooking. There will be bucket raffles, a photo area, a year-in-fishing slide show, 2025 Board Induction, and fun camaraderie, as Al is opening his restaurant specifically for the DFF. Due to odd zoning regulations, Al cannot serve alcohol, but attendees can bring their favorite beverage to dinner; there is no cork fee. We are looking forward to our most festive meeting of the year!



DALLAS FLY FISHERS ANNUAL
HOLIDAY
PARTY

Come celebrate the holidays with the DFF
at Besa's Italian Restaurant

7602 N. Jupiter Rd, Garland, TX 75044 • Sunday, December 8, 2024
Doors open at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm.
Registration is now closed.

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HOLIDAY PARTY SLIDESHOW

The membership received an email with a private link to upload your 2024 fly fishing photos you would like to include in the Holiday Party Slideshow. We want to revel in and reminisce about the fly fishing fun you enjoyed this year, so show us where you've fished, with whom you fished, the fish you caught, and the fun you had. If you did not receive the email, please contact us.

2025 Program Schedule of the Speakers

January 6th: Rick & Dori Matney of Alaska Chromechasers and Rick Matney Outdoors out of Bozeman. Rick and Dori will be showcasing their guiding and outfitting operations in southeast Alaska for steelhead/gathering along with their operation in southwest Montana. They will be hosting cooking classes at the shop as well. They run an excellent operation and are

two of the finest folks in the industry.

February 3rd: Capt. William Townsend will be coming up from Corpus Christi to talk about his guiding operation for redfish and speckled trout in the Rockport/Corpus area. A couple of our members have fished with William and he is one of the preferred guides on the Texas coast.

Dear Members, If you have been around someone who is ill, and exposure is 10 days or less from a DFF event, we are asking that you please enjoy the event via Zoom from home. We are trying to limit exposures to others, whether it is COVID-19, the Flu, the common cold, or any other communicable disease. We appreciate your help in working together to keep everyone healthy.

2024-2025 Calendar

The 2024-2025 Programs and major events calendar. We are having another great year at the Dallas Flyfishers. **Danny Soltau** has been hard at work setting things up.

December 8th — Holiday Party, Besa's Italian Restaurant, 5:30 – 8:30 pm

December 11th — Trout Outing at Josey Ranch Park South Pond in Carrollton at 10:00 am

December 18th — Trout Outing at Kleberg-Rylie Recreation Center in Dallas at 10:00 am

January 6th — Monthly Meeting, 6:30 FUMC Richardson

January 20th — Cenla Fly Fishing Festival, Pineville, LA www.kisatchiefly.org

January 25th — Dr. Ed Rizzolo Fly Tying Festival 8:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Terrace United Methodist Church 1203 Wirt Road, Houston, Texas 77055

January 26th — Stream Life at Furneaux Creek, 10:00 am

March 14th & 15th — Red River Rendezvous, Eisenhower State Park, Denison, TX

March 27th - 29th — Sowbug Roundup, Mountain Home, AR

July 18th & 19th — Caddo Flyfishing Expo, Jefferson, TX

October 31st - November 2nd — Toledo Bend Rendezvous, North Toledo Bend State Park, Zwolle, LA

DFF November Outings Report

Six members spent a part of Veterans Day fly fishing Loy Lake. Though lake levels were a little low from the lack of October rain, the water was gin clear which made for perfect opportunities for sight casting to the fish. Members waded, used float tubes, and kayaked around the lake targeting Largemouth Bass, Sunfish, and Grass Carp. The City of Denison

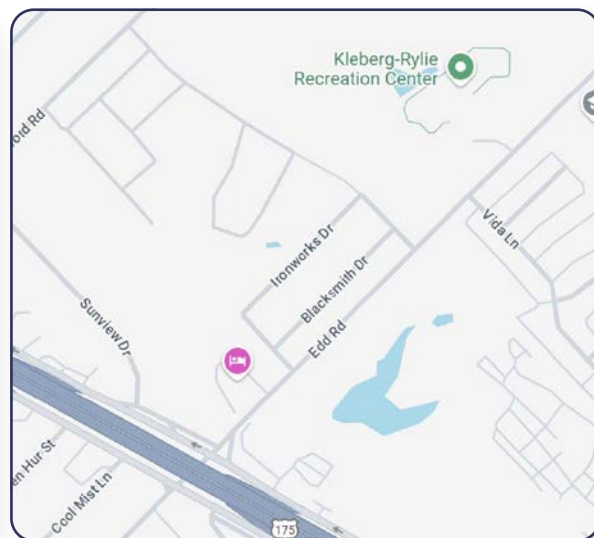
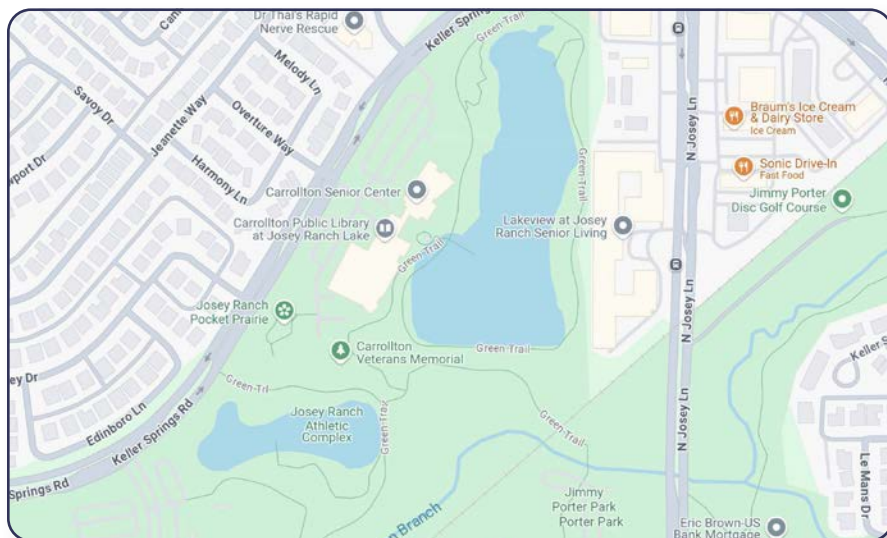
has assumed the responsibilities for Loy Lake and has begun making improvements to the area. After fishing, Dan Inns, Jerry Hamon, Jeff Ziehm, Cody Bell, and Julia Bell enjoyed lunch together reminiscing that the club has not fished Loy Lake since April 2010. Dave Smith also attended but left earlier in the day.



Upcoming DFF Outings

To celebrate trout stockings in the area, we will have two outings in December beginning at 10:00 am. Please bring a sack lunch, the non-alcoholic beverages of your choice, and a chair, so we can share our lunch together. The first outing will be on Wednesday, 11 December in Carrollton at the Josey Ranch Park South Pond,

1440 Keller Springs RD Carrollton, TX 75006. It will have been stocked with Trout on Tuesday the 10th. The second outing will be on Wednesday, 18 December in East Dallas at the Kleberg-Rylie Recreation Center, 1515 Edd RD Dallas, TX 75253. It will have been stocked with Trout on Tuesday the 17th.



2024 - 2025 TPWD Trout Stocking Schedule

TPWD released their Trout Stocking Schedule mid-November; it can be found on their website at this link:

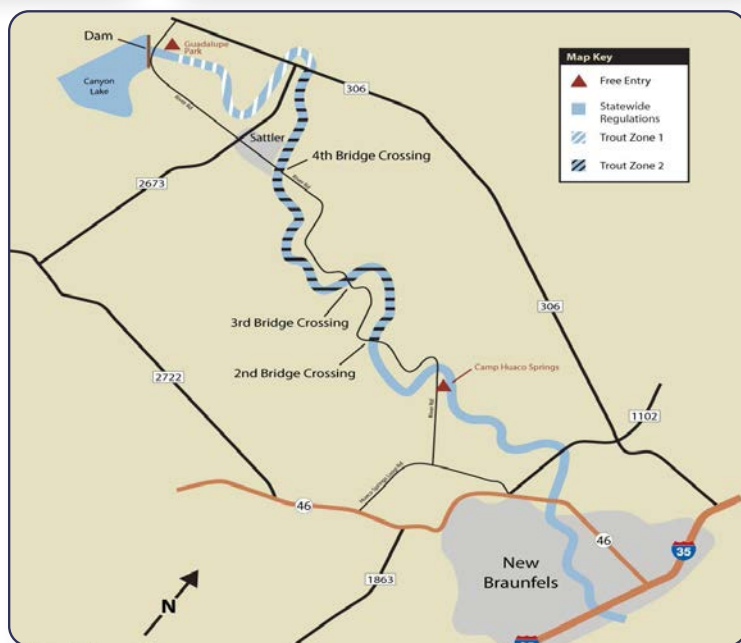
[TPWD 2024-2025 Trout Stocking Schedule.](#)

As has been in the past, there is no minimum length limit required to keep a trout, and the daily bag limit is 5 trout per day. Anglers may have one or two rods while fishing but no more than two rods are allowed, and fishers aged 17 and older must have a valid, freshwater or all-water fishing endorsement on their license; anglers 16 and younger do not need a license. If fishing in a Texas State Park, no licenses or endorsements are needed.

Special Regulations for sections of the Guadalupe River

Please note: Two sections of this river are subject to special harvest regulations on rainbow and brown trout. In these sections, all trout harvested must be caught on artificial lures, and the following bag and size limits are in effect:

- Beginning 800 yards downstream from the Canyon Dam release gate and extending to the easternmost bridge on FM Road 306, there is a 12-to-18-inch slot limit. Trout 12 inches and under or 18 inches and longer may be retained. Daily bag limit is five trout, and only one can be 18 inches or longer.
- From the easternmost bridge on FM 306 downstream to the second bridge crossing on River Road, there is an 18-inch minimum size limit, and a one trout daily bag.



Fly Tying Events

In December, the DFF will not be hosting their Third Tuesday tying night. However, Danny hosts a free tying night at McNeals in Downtown Plano. Show up early and get some good food. The tying starts about 7PM. The patterns are selected by Danny of the Dirty Water Fly Company who brings the materials. If you need tools, call ahead and he will probably have enough of them for you too. Both of these gentlemen have contact information in the newsletters for their activity, be sure to call them for information.



FLY TYING NIGHTS
McNeals
Tavern & Eatery
PLANO, TX

HOSTED BY
DIRTY WATER FLY CO

WINTER SERIES

Join us for Open Tying Nights twice a month on the 2nd & last Tuesdays @ 7 PM in the south room!
All materials provided, please RSVP to reserve tools if needed!

RSVP at Dirty Water Fly Co or drop an email to dan@dirtywaterflyco.com
469-573-5040

Caddo Flyfishing Expo

When: July 18th & 19th, 2025 • Where: Historic Downtown Jefferson Texas (44 miles from Shreveport, LA)



Details:

You are an accomplished fly tyer. The North Louisiana Fly Fishers would like to invite you to be one a select group of fly tyers to participate in the first Caddo Fly Fishing Expo.

This will take place at the convention center in the quaint historic town of Jefferson Texas. Bring your wife or significant others. The town is buzzing with thrift shops and antique stores. Delightful cafe's and restaurants dot the red brick streets. The general store is a destination of it's own.



The event will offer:

- Incredible fishing on Big Cypress Bayou just steps from the front door of the convention center.
- Reserved tying spot for Friday afternoon and all day Saturday
- Dinner for invited tyers Friday night (plus complementary food Saturday)
- Seminars , bucket draws, and raffles all day Saturday

This will be the first Caddo Fly Fishing Expo.

If successful, we plan to offer the expo every odd numbered years. The success of this event depends on quality fly tyers like yourself. We would love for you to be a part of this successful event. Spots are limited. If you can participate please let us know. Email the club at: nlffclub@gmail.com

Please put "Caddo flyfishing expo" in the subject line of email. This will take place at the convention center in the quaint historic town of Jefferson Texas. Bring your wife or significant others. The town is buzzing with thrift shops and antique stores. Delightful cafe's and restaurants dot the red brick streets.

The general store is a destination of it's own.

If you have questions feel free to contact Steve Oliver at: 318-349-6411 or Scott Irwin at 318-469-0854

28th Annual
INTERNATIONAL
SOWBUG
ROUNDUP

Presented by North Arkansas Fly Fishers

MARCH 27TH - 29TH, 2025

**Welcome to a Top 10
Fly-Fishing Destination.**



Pat Dorsey

Master Fly-Fishing Guide



Tim Flagler

Fly Tying Instructor

*Join us as we
**Celebrate Euro
Nymphing** on
the Norfolk
& White Rivers
with vendors,
seminars, food,
& special guests!*



**Baxter County
Fair Grounds**

Mountain Home, AR

**FREE
ADMISSION**

for adults accompanying
children 12 and under

9am - 4pm



November Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson



This December Article wraps up a year that has been full of turmoil in the Conservation Field. It is my hope that the many ups and downs will stabilize in 2025. There is a lot of activity on the horizon, so let's dive in. With the election behind us. A lot might change, perhaps some of it is good.

It is my hope that the many conservation projects will survive. The Native American's are also concerned. I will just state that we need to wait and see the overall direction of our high priority projects. I will watch for the good ones like the Y2Y project, so they will still be on the active list. Much of the so called "Green Agenda" are on the short list of things that will need attention. A lot of these are on my list of projects that need to be fine-tuned, to be as kind as possible.

Many Western delegations are at UN COP 29, the biggest UN climate conference of the year. Azerbaijan is this year's host country. In a major embarrassment for the UN climate regime the president of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, took the stage at COP 29 and proclaimed oil and gas to be gifts from God. That's not exactly how the alarmist's climate narrative is supposed to go.

Aliyev also denounced what he called the "fake news" media for hypocrisy in labeling his country a "petro state," while the United States and Europe produce many times more oil and gas than his nation. He also told the assembled conference delegates that Azerbaijan's greenhouse gas emissions (if that's your thing) are tiny when compared to other nations and the world. The UN climate process has degenerated into a farce, although it remains an incredibly expensive farce. The Wall Street Journal called for this to be the last UN climate conference, writing that: "The real joke of these summits is that so many people still take them seriously. Whatever one thinks of the arguments surrounding climate change, there won't be a material reduction in global carbon emissions until China, India and other developing countries—such as, say, Azerbaijan—agree to sacrifice their economic growth on the altar of Western green fixations."

This isn't happening in practice, and Mr. Aliyev's comments suggest leaders of those countries feel less pressure to pretend. It makes you wonder if COP29 may be the last time anyone tries to organize a spectacle like this. For the last several COP Meetings most of the nations just attended to see how much money they would get. The entire group passed some resolutions that the 20 or so "rich nations" would give them billions to help them survive

Global Warming. This was never going to happen, and it is more and more clear that if all they are there for is to find which line is where you go to get the big checks, that they were wasting their time.

The world should be so lucky.

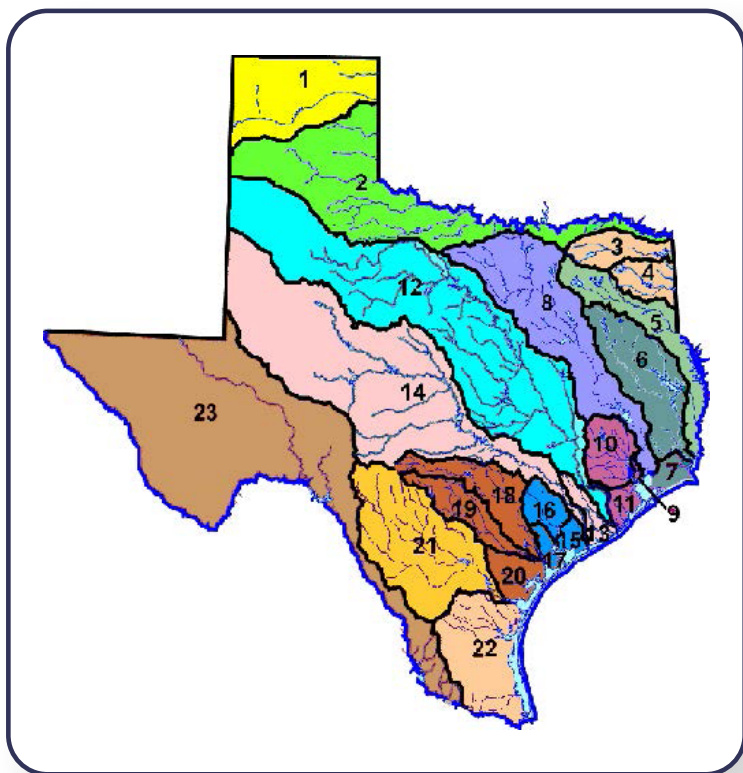
Water Issues

This has been a wild year for water issues. Ranging from a very wet springtime to an extended drought in the summer and now some water for us here. However, with the extensive wildfire on both coasts, not all of us are sharing the water evenly. And now my birthplace states are getting the annual snowpack beginning to build.

In Texas, and most of the Middle States, winter is upon us and about right on schedule. Water management and conservation is a big issue and one that must be on the short list of things that need our considerable attention. Here in Northeast Texas, we have two new lakes coming online and a 30-year-old conflict about a third one. This was from the 1994 Texas water plan, and the third lake was contentious then as well. However, it seems to move a bit. While in a normal wet year we have enough water, it is still a top priority to manage our water well. For example, have you turned off the sprinklers for the year and know that you will not use them again until probably April? Please do NOT waste water, it is too hard to make it up.

Personal water management is easier than it was in the part of California that I moved here from in 1992. We were on water rationing and had patrols out that could write expensive tickets for wasting water. Here I get on the list to receive the notices from our local water district, and it seems to be well informed. I am happy about that. It is managing the project for the third dam and resulting new lake to being named Lake Marvin Nickols. It has been delayed for about three decades, but now it seems to have some traction. Best water management practices are still needed even with the new water.

Waste water management and clean water practices are important. Since the first Earth Day in 1972 our water issues have seen some improvement. In the beginning, the issue was a thing called point source pollution. That is pollution that comes from a certain pipe or runoff from an Industrial Site. These are easy to see and find, and often not too hard to work out a solution with the owner of the effluent.



The problem that does not seem to have a handle is called Non-point Source Pollution. Managing that requires a watershed view of your water. We should be proud of Texas who was big on this by the mid-seventies. To this day, they still have all the streams and little creeks that feed a river system under the management of the same team. This ensures that it is being evaluated and the solutions are being implemented on most of the water running into one river.

On the map, colors define the point where the water goes to one or the other of the two river systems. So they define the area that is part of the non-point source of the river system I am impressed at how detailed our TPWD folks are in understanding the very complex natural water sources associated with a given River System.

With Texas covering so much ground, it is very important that we have documents like this graphic. We are still a lowland river system of lakes and reservoirs roughly everywhere east of I-35. This area is green and well forested. West of the foothills from I-35 to the arid Southwest is an entirely different ecology. We will stay with our part of Texas, the wetter and greener side of it. With our state's population growing so

fast, long-range planning for the water needs is vital, and I believe it is being well done.

Our Native Animals in our National Parks, Will They Survive

Grizzly 399 was no stranger to roads. For nearly three decades, she raised generations of cubs near the busy roadways in and around Grand Teton National Park, relying on the traffic to keep male grizzlies away from her cubs and, along the way, inspiring a dedicated fan club for herself and her offspring. But on Oct. 22, all that ended, when a driver passing through the Snake River Canyon, south of the park near the town of Alpine, Wyoming, struck and killed Grizzly 399.

The driver who killed this iconic creature was not speeding or impaired in any way. He was going home, and like many who work in the parks, lived in a town that was a bit away. He swerved to avoid hitting her cubs and hit Mother Grizzly by accident.

The death of "Wyoming's true reigning celebrity" a charismatic and beloved bruin whose death has been reported by every major news outlet in the U.S., is a painful reminder that national parks aren't enough to protect wide-ranging species like grizzlies.

Grand Teton's wildlife can wander north, into Yellowstone National Park, and east and west into national forests and do so in relative safety. But south of the park, where Jackson sits, local commuters and tourists snarl the two-lane highways that



lead into and out of the valley of Jackson Hole and cut through the sagebrush flats, aspen meadows and river canyons that the animals also use.

Grizzly 399 is the most famous recent victim of Yellowstone-area traffic, but not the first and certainly not the last. Vehicles also killed two of her cubs. And shortly after her death, a truck killed a large bull moose just south of Grand Teton on Highway 191. According to the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, which tracks roadkill hotspots for moose, elk and mule deer, drivers' strike and kill at least 20 moose annually in Teton County, Wyoming. Grand Teton National Park says that between 75 and 100 large animals are killed by cars within the park boundaries every year.

To me this is an impossible dilemma to fix. We very much need the tourists to pay for the parks, and to spread the word about how magnificent it was to see these great animals. But that same need is what brings large numbers of city folks with little knowledge of how to behave around large predators. Even the big grazing animals need a better relationship with tourists. The Bison – Tourist tossing season is treated as a joke, however it sadly is a true issue.

Texas Trout Fishing is back

As Julia posted on our FB page, the trout stocking dates and rules

have just been published. Jere suffers from having come from Trout Country in the Western States, so these hatchery pets are not going to set any records for me. I have caught a few one-foot class trout here, so keep after them. There are a few good ones.

Be sure to renew those licenses. For us "Less Young" ones, our annual Texas license is a real bargain. The lower Blue River has been stocked, so go north for a few trout now. By the time you read this a lot of places will have gotten their first transfusion of planter Trout. Take a kid fishing. Bait like you use for warm water sunfishes will get planter trout. All fish are great in the mind of our youngest fishing youth.

I hope you have your reservation for the Holiday Party. Judy and I will be there and are looking forward to it. Blessings for a great holiday season. I hope you get whatever it is that you have been hinting at to those around you. I am sure you deserve that, no matter who takes the hint.

Have a Happy remainder of 2024 and I hope you have much to look forward to in 2025.

Get involved. Our Outdoors needs all your help.



To Join DFF, complete the form below and mail along

with your check to:

Dallas Fly Fishers

8349 Club Meadows Dr.

Dallas, Tx 75243

You can also join or renew online at

<http://www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership.html>

MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL

New Member ☐ or Renewing My Membership ☐ (Check one) Date _____

Name: _____ Spouse's name: _____

E-mail address: _____

Home phone: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Are you a current member of the Federation of Fly Fishers? Yes ☐ No ☐ (check one)

New Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year

After July 1st, pay \$18 for half year

After Oct 1st, just pay for the following year

Renewing Members:

Annual membership dues: \$36 per year