

# The Leader



*Newsletter of the Dallas Flyfishers* ♦ *November 2024*  
*Volume XLVII* ♦ *Number 11* ♦ [www.dallasflyfishers.org](http://www.dallasflyfishers.org)



**FLY FISHERS**  
INTERNATIONAL

## On The Water

*by Dave Smith*

The month of November is here with Halloween in the rear view mirror we look ahead to the coming events.

November gets into high gear with the General Election to pick the leaders of our government.

Our general meeting for November is Monday the 4th, at that time you will be voting on our Board Members for 2025.

Thanksgiving will be just around the corner and then before you can take a break Christmas will be here.

Heading into the Christmas season sets us up for our Dallas Fly Fishers Holiday Party DECEMBER 8th.

Planning is underway for the party; it is a PRE- REGISTRATION EVENT ONLY. The cut off date to register is NOVEMBER 17th.

If you have photos from a fishing trip for the slide show please forward

them to Julia Bell.

Be sure to check the calendar in The Leader and on the club web site for coming events.

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 this month's meeting we are meeting in a new room. Not the Ogden room where we regularly meet. Not the Youth Fellowship room upstairs where we sometimes meet. But in room 203 in the Education Wing.

For the Ogden room you enter on the north side of the church. **For the Youth Fellowship room you enter on the west side of the church. For room 203, you will enter through the church's main entrance on the south side of the church.**

After entering through the Main Entrance, walk through the Shawver Welcome Center to the stairs or elevator to the second floor of the Education Wing. Room 203 is in the Education Wing, will be at our regular meeting location at First United Methodist Church (FUMC), 503 N. Central Expressway, Richardson, TX 75080.

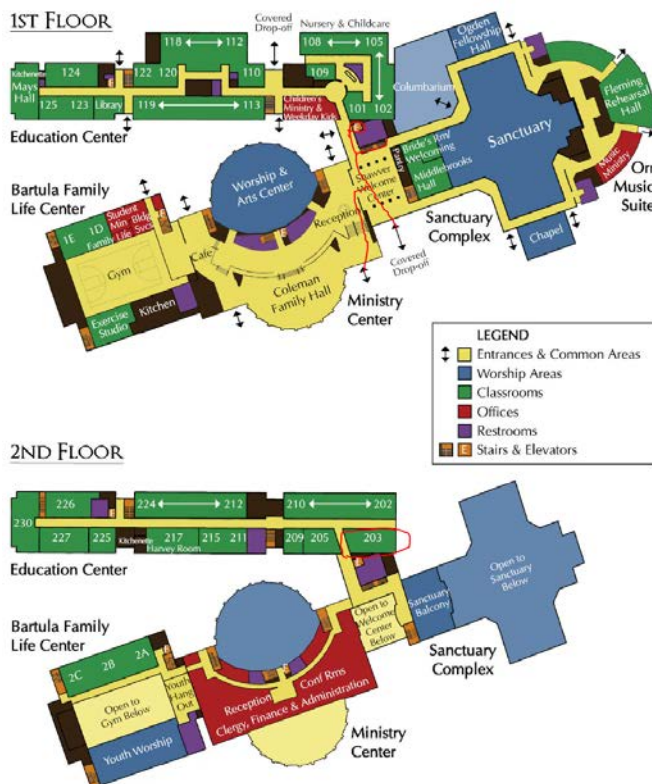
We appreciate everyone's flexibility over the past few months as we tried to find alternative locations due to conflicts with the church's schedule.

While we were all looking forward to hosting John Wood this month, he had a family emergency come up in Florida and notified me that he will have to reschedule with us. Our thoughts are with him and his family.

Fortunately for us, local guide and industry staple Greg Weiland of Upstream on the Fly will fill that role. He is going to present on his white/sand bass program that he offers during the spring months on local fisheries. The presentation will start with a

short fly tying demo on one of his go to patterns for those species and will transition into the fishing side after that. Many of you have likely crossed paths with Greg and some have even fished with him before. He is an awesome person and lots of fun to hang out with whether fishing or not.

**Our new meeting start time is 6:30pm** and please remember to wear your name tag!



## 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.

**November 4th** — **Monthly Meeting**, 6:30, Youth Room, Bartula Family Life Center

**November 17th** — Deadline for Holiday Party Registration

**November 19th** — **Third Tuesday Tying Night** at the Allen Cablea's, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

**November 24th** — **Stream Life** at Furneaux Creek, 10:00 am

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

**December 29th** — **Stream Life** at Furneaux Creek, 10:00 am

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

**January 20th** — **Cenla Fly Fishing Festival**, Pineville, LA  
[www.kisatchieffy.org](http://www.kisatchieffy.org)

**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

The background of the slide is a festive winter scene with snow, pine branches, and red berries. The text is centered and uses a mix of red and green colors for emphasis.

## 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.

Register and pay for the party at <https://dallasflyfishers.org/holiday-party> • Deadline for registering is Nov 17

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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. **Submission deadline is December 1, 2024.**



# DDF October Outings Report

## Toledo Bend Fly Tying Rendezvous

by Terri White

On the weekend of October 18th through October 20th, many members of the Dallas Fly Fishers (DDF) participated in the 2024 Toledo Bend Fly Tying Rendezvous in Zwolle, LA. The event was first held in 1989, and now is an event supported by 6 regional fly-tying clubs, including the DDF. The gathering is held at North Toledo Bend State Park. At the event, fly tyers from Texas and Louisiana shared their fly-tying skills, made new friends, and enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Toledo Bend. The main event was held in the large group cabin where participants set up their fly-tying stations. Participants also brought dishes, many of them regional Cajun fare, to

share with each other. The food and comradery were excellent. No one went hungry! Some participants stayed in the bunkrooms; others camped in RVs or rented individual cabins in the park. Also, if you chose, you could fish before fly-tying, take a nature walk, or admire the beautiful sunrise. The bunk rooms were very affordable and available without extra cost. Due to the support of the 6 fly tying clubs, the entire cost for the weekend was \$40. Attached are some photos of the event. Mark your calendars for next year. The 2025 Toledo Bend Fly Tying Rendezvous will be October 31st -November 2nd at North Toledo Bend State Park.





# Upcoming DFF Outings

## Loy Lake Outing

**Date:** Monday 11 November 2024

**Location:** Loy Lake, Denison, TX

**Time:** 11am - ?

**Species:** Largemouth Bass, Sunfish—Bluegills, Greens, and Warmouths

Shore fishing, Kayak fishing, Kick boat, Float tube, and boats using trolling motor only

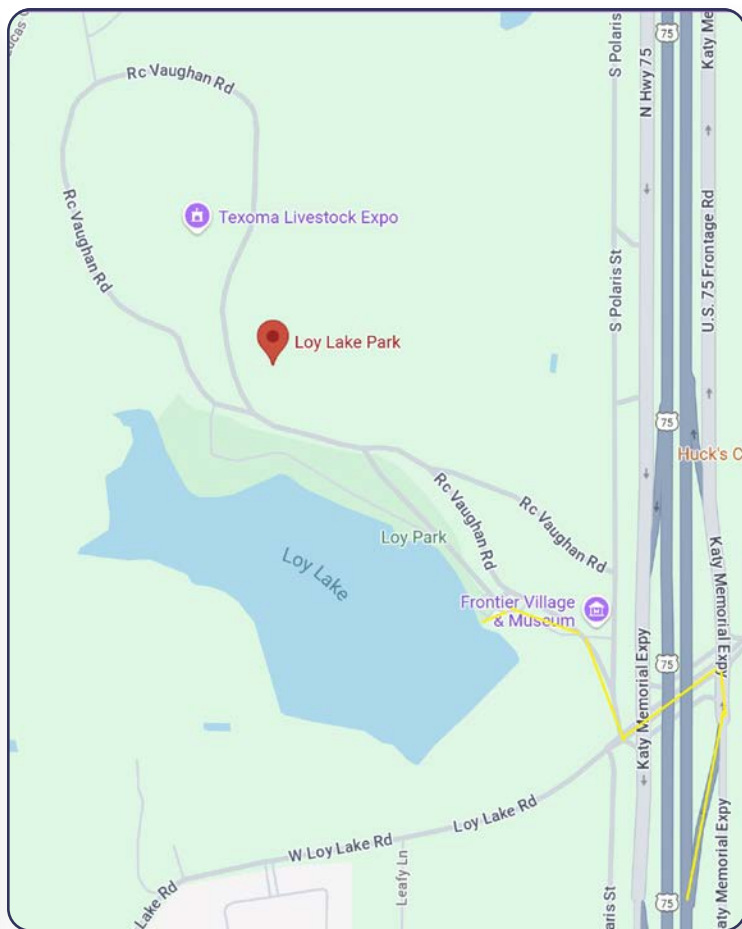
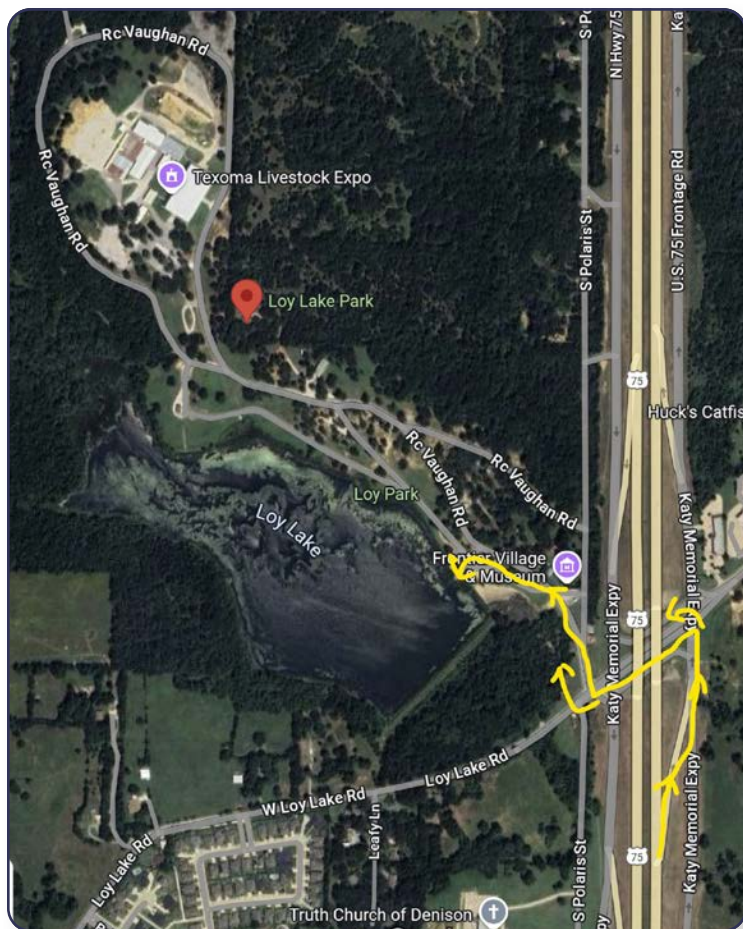
**Rods:** #4 - #5, floating and slow sinking, 135 – 150 grain

**Flies:** Cap Spiders, Woolly Buggers, crawfish patterns in browns, black and chartreuse patterns, purple patterns

The city of Denison now oversees Loy Lake, as such, they have done some much needed maintenance. The tall grasses and cattails have been cut back, so anglers can enjoy bank fishing; the summer alga has dissipated, and the water has been quite clear. The forecast is anticipated to be low 70s,

mostly sunny, winds 9 mph. It is supposed to have rained the Saturday and Sunday before the 11th.

US 75 North to Grayson County. Exit 67, **NORTH** Loy Lake Rd. **Do NOT take the South Loy Lake Rd exit!** Turn West on to Loy Lake Rd. and be in the right lane. Continue west past the southbound US-75 service road and the entrance to Loy Lake will be on the north side; look for the bust of Eisenhower and the flags flying behind it. At the Y, stay to the left/northwest on R C Vaughn RD. At the next, quick intersection, turn west/left and enter in the park through the open gate. Loy Lake will be on the south/left side. There is a boat ramp, but with the water being a little lower than normal, if you are bringing a kayak, use the grass area beside the boat ramp to launch your kayak/kick boat. Bring non-alcoholic beverages and snacks to keep you hydrated and fueled.



# Time to Jump In

## DFF Fly Tying Corner

by Dan Montayne, DFF Fly Tying Coordinator

If you put off learning or improving your fly tying in the past, now's the time to jump in and refine your skills during the 2024 – 2025 tying year. Each of our monthly sessions starts with discussions about old and new materials used in tying. Next, we move to an explanation of why the evening's fly is a GO-TO warm water pattern. Then we hand out kits or materials along with step-by-step, color printed sheets, and follow those sequenced plates to completion. Usually, one instructor, along with the presenter, walks the room, helping tiers complete each step.

Believe it or not, this is the fourth year of tying at Cabela's in Allen, TX. Our focus is solely on making you an accomplished fly tier. The bonus

comes when you see the results of your personal tying efforts with more catches and a firm understanding of how to fish the flies you create.

Below are a few of the topics and flies produced over the last year: killer crayfish, realistic dubbing and applications, The Jewel Thief (synthetics at work), understanding fly proportions, split dubbing techniques; wings, wings and more wings; three perfect pan flies for Texas, surface streamers, parachute buggers, and how to determine the amount of feathers and or materials needed to form the desired fly shape. If you think that these topics and patterns are a lot, consider the last three years as well. Come on. Jump in. Join our fly tying group.





# Fly Tying Events

The DFF has three fly tying events per month. The **Third Tuesday** is organized by **Dan Montayne** at Cabela's/Bass Pro and has been going for four years now. Check out his article above and make sure to be there for PART 2 of his dubbing class.

He will also bring tools if you call ahead.

The second and last Tuesday of the month, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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



**28<sup>th</sup> Annual**  
INTERNATIONAL  
**SOWBUG**  
**ROUNDUP**

Presented by North Arkansas Fly Fishers

**MARCH 27<sup>TH</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup>, 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**





# DFF Education Corner

## Dallas Baptist University Outdoor Experiences Class

by Jere Anderson

This University Class that the DFF helps with was full of interesting and interested young adults. Most were Juniors and Seniors, so we were talking to a wave of new adults, and I was happy to feel the interest that they showed in Fly Fishing. The 12 students were instructed by a team of 4 DFF Instructors. The teaching team was President Dave Smith, Jere Anderson, VP Art San Ramon, and Dr. Ray Galloway is the professor that leads the class.

Here is the picture from day 1:



We taught rods and reels, about what fish eat, and tied a few flies. Then we taught knots and much harder, had them construct the nearly invisible leader that they would tie on the rods the next day, and present their fly with. Then Jere presented some notes on Conservation Projects and their importance, and on all the warm water species that are available to them here in the South.

We talked about the near loss of our state fish, the Guadalupe Bass, and its recovery as an example of the things they could get involved in, and about our Water Watch and its importance. We finished the day with a discussion about safety and proper clothing to wear fly fishing.

Here is President Dave getting fly tying started:



This was the fun but frustrating exercise in tying leaders out of leader and tippet material for the Tuesday Fishing.



This was Jere's team of fly tiers, all were quick and careful and learned fast. We tied a slightly simpler version first, then added some details. The two smiley women and I talked for most of the session since they tied their flies in well under half the time allotted to it. This is what I like best. Getting to talk to young adults about going out into the world about almost anything.

I gave them a copy of our Newsletter and how to join. One of the students told me they live in Plano so I will try to let them know about our activities. Most of the students could be part of something that we do.





# November Conservation Corner

by Jere Anderson



While the biggest event on an International Scale is COP 29, which has the Grand name of The 29th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, will not meet until the mid to late November time frame. Hence, I will not have much to say about it. I expect it to be best described as “Same Song, Different Day”. We will give them the benefit of the doubt for now.

Do be sure to vote, it is important, and if you have a connection with some of the young adults, be sure to let them know that it is even more so to them, since they will have to live with the effects of this election for most of their lives.

On the weather forecast, October had forgotten to show up in Texas. Then almost by surprise we started getting October temperatures about mid-October that were as cold as it had last been in early April. We usually have rained every few days off and on from mid-September, but so far it is dry in Texas. Hopefully by the time you read this, we will be back to normal. We were far ahead of

normal rainfall last spring, but we are back to roughly normal now due to the very dry summer. These weather cycles are normal, but the people that want to blame everything from Hurricanes to butterfly migrations on a mostly mythical climate change are hard at work.

The real climate scientists are more concerned about the Sun which has cycles, going into a cooling period. Since the sun is the source of most of the energy in the Solar System, I have little trouble believing that a solar cooling period will also be an Earth weather cooling period.

## DFF Activity is Thriving

Fall season with school starting and the weather cooling has many changes. For those of us in the Texas Council Clubs, we had a huge early fall. Big, fun and important events for all to enjoy. Score yourself on the number of these that you took part in.

- It started with the FFI Fly Tying Group holding a huge national event. Our second shot at holding a big spectator event like the old FFI Conclaves in Livingston, MT. was well planned and brought in a





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lot of the big names in the FTG. The FTG group President, the Texas Council President and officers of the DFF and our Twin Brothers in the FWFF had a lot of time to visit and compare notes. I hope for two things; I want a lot more tiers there, and I want a lot of spectators. But I was there for the first time in a big event since the Rendezvous in 2019, and loved it.

- We next had my favorite group to teach, the young adults of Dallas Baptist University for two days as a part of Dr. Galloway's Outdoor Experiences Class. They are alert and interested and participate actively. Teaching a group like that is what makes me wonder why I didn't become a teacher like my Mother was for her entire work life. We tied a few flies, tied a few

knots as they built the leader that they would fish with the next day, and talked about fish, their food, and how to find them. Lots of fun.

- The Oktoberfest in Kerrville is a great event. This is a fun river fish and wading as well as where kayaks work well. The target species is in the river Guadalupe Bass, our state fish. Planter trout and others are also reported. It is a great outdoor show and fun. The group things are educational and fun.

- October 15th was Dan's Fly Tying third Tuesday event. He gave us a lot of knowledge about feathers and then we tied a feather version of the Deceiver Streamer Fly.

- One of our repeat classes is supporting the Rosemeade Recreation Center's programs with a Fly Fishing Class. These often draw as many as 40 students, however we had 12 this time. The club has so many good and willing Instructors that we handle the load comfortably. The good luck of a sunny fall season, this class was a fun day of instructing.

- This same weekend has one of our favorite gatherings, The Toledo Bend Rendezvous in Zwolle, LA. With the recently formed Gulf Coast Council of the FFI, this event started long ago as a group fishing trip by the Pineywoods Fly Fishers and the North Louisiana Fly Fishers and it grew to a full event that needed most of the capacity of a State Park with many bunkhouses to hold it.

This year there were about 29 attendees. This is not enough to keep it going. I personally hope we get better attendance. Dave and Jere went to the 2019 one, and Jere has gone with several of our other tiers over the years. When Fred DuPre was going, we were certain to get some kind of shrimp dish or other Cajun Cooking. It is too good to have it die out IMO.

We have had sing-a-longs on the porch with many talented fly tiers who brought strung instruments, and we relaxed after a huge

feed and a full day of fly tying for a folk sing on the porch. We have an active group of fly tiers in the club, so what would it take to get a few more to this event? The food is like a giant potluck picnic, and often quite interesting, though always with plenty so you can have what you want out of the offering.

## Wind Farm Project May Risk Endangered Marine Animals

Jere has long been a bit skeptical about the rush to install questionable technology for the equally questionable Green Projects. With the failures of wind turbines due to towers falling over, blade breakage, and the huge problems of moving the giant fan blades to remote location, the Engineer in me has been concerned that the rush to get this technology out in the field may have cut a few too many corners. Safety of the environment is not an issue in the wind farms in central Texas, but as the wind farms are being built in more sensitive areas, I am more worried about a real tragedy looming on the horizon.

As a lifelong conservationist whose concerns about protecting major endangered species from becoming closer to extinction due to some poorly thought-out major projects have troubled me a lot. For this month, I would like to discuss the ocean environment and some major critically endangered wildlife. Major projects to build wind farms on the continental shelf of the Atlantic Coast are getting a big push even as we speak. These areas are the home of a critically endangered species, the North Atlantic Right Whale. This animal and the Blue Fin Tuna are a part of a complex natural environment that is in the crosshairs of the anti-oil crowd and this questionable Project.

But there is more to this problem. Every year over 10 million visitors come to Virginia Beach to enjoy the open ocean view, and see the wildlife, relaxing in the peace and quiet of this major recreational area. The impact on the tourist dollars and the desirability of the area and its economy is an endangered species IMO. The Dominion Wind Project is just one of 30 such projects envisioned. This project envisions 176 Wind Turbines on 113,000 acres.

The construction of just this one project will require huge damage to the seafloor from pile driving the turbines tower structure into the seafloor, and then dumping hundreds of tons of rock and concrete slabs to stabilize the sea floor. What will be the impact of so much construction on the often-fragile ecology of the near shore seafloor? The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) would like you to believe that these are minor and temporary, being mostly part of

the construction process. I suggest that with the number of turbines towers that collapse every year world-wide to suggest that all will be rosy once the initial impact of the construction is done, it is absurd, or at least a stretch of the imagination. More important to me is how the migrations of our near shore sea life will be harmed by noise and construction pollution of this magnitude?

With a goal of NMFS' regulation appearing to be to ignore the cumulative impacts of thousands of other wind turbines to be installed as part of the 29 other wind turbine projects planned for construction up and down the Atlantic coastline. NMFS did not consider the effects of wind turbine structural failures—such as turbine or blade collapse—on the continued survival of the North Atlantic Right Whale that are occurring on wind turbines all over the world, including offshore of Nantucket, Massachusetts.

I am insulted by the agencies that want us to look at each project as if it was the only thing they are doing. If we do we will not see that much danger to the Ocean Ecology. I cannot fathom how anyone could say that with a straight face. I admit that my field of expertise is NOT ocean marine ecology, but this plan ignores too many things and makes arm waving statements that any of us can see are more fable than fact.

What can be done about this? Perhaps a new Congress will review these scary project plans. Priorities can change, and the more dangerous projects are put on pause. It would not be the first time a new administration, even if it was the same party often there is

a momentary review of the stuff they inherited. I just hope that a project of this magnitude and impact will have budget problems and will be told to go slow.

On the Texas Front, the fall hunting and fishing seasons are coming on-line. The warm fall weather will have lots of sportsmen and women in the fields, I would expect. We can look forward to the Texas Trout season. Many smaller bodies of water will have planter Trout. Be sure to keep up with the planting schedule, as lots of people go there and fish them out in a very short time. As a former resident of real trout country, I am not very much inspired by the 8 inch hatchery trout, but since they seem to be the fish we are supposed to catch on a fly rod, by all means go for them.

If you have not signed up for our Holiday Banquet, there is an article in this newsletter, and it looks like a good one. Bring the other fishing folks in the family. Last year I brought my youngest daughter and my grandson. They had fun and talked to just about everyone.

*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 <a href="http://www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership.html">http://www.dallasflyfishers.org/membership.html</a>	<h2>MEMBERSHIP / RENEWAL</h2>	
	New Member <input type="checkbox"/> or Renewing My Membership <input type="checkbox"/> (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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (check one)	
	<b>New Members:</b> Annual membership dues: \$36 per year After July 1st, pay \$18 for half year After Oct 1st, just pay for the following year	<b>Renewing Members:</b> Annual membership dues: \$36 per year