



The May2021 NEWSLETTER

**Northern Arizona Flycasters
An active member club of the World Wide organization
“Fly Fishers International”
“Conservation, Restoration, and Education through Fly Fishing”**

We support active involvement in cold water fisheries conservation. We work to insure that Arizona’s habitat is not degraded and in the development and maintenance of fly fishing opportunities.

We support the practice of “catch and release”, the use of barbless hooks, and quick and harmless release practices. Fish should never be kept out of the water for over 60 seconds.

Northern Arizona Flycasters meets the first Wednesday of the month
(Meetings currently on Zoom) at the Arizona Game and Fish Regional
office at 3500 S. Lake Mary Road, Flagstaff. Meetings start at 7 PM with
a board meeting at 6:00 PM.

The meetings are free and the public is invited.

PRESIDENT’S DRIFT :

Spring is upon us. Be prepared for turbid, fast-moving water. Watch the changing weather-cold temps, wind, rain, even snow combined with longer days. Make sure to check road conditions: interstate, highway, and USFS unpaved roads.

Double check to ensure what facilities are open and if there are travel restrictions.

And the most fun, local fishing conditions. Resources include state Dept. of Natural Resource sites, local fly shops, and social media sites.

Finally, inspect your tackle, clothing, and license. Make sure your vehicle is ready for travel.

"You can overthink your tackle, especially in fishing brooks you can jump across. It's fun to use quality tackle, but the tackle can become a distraction from actually flyfishing." Unknown moderator.

Here is the Zoom invitation for the meeting on the 5th.

Charles Simpson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: NAF Monthly Meeting May 2021

Time: May 5, 2021 07:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81296524591?pwd=TkY4MGk1L3ArVVN0YTN1M21PN3I4QT09>

Meeting ID: 812 9652 4591

Passcode: 535156

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,81296524591#,,,,*535156# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,81296524591#,,,,*535156# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

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+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 812 9652 4591

Passcode: 535156

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbf129SStZ>

Every club member is important to the wellbeing of our club and to our local fisheries.

NAF needs your involvement and there are many volunteer venues available such as fishing trips, conservation, writing about club activities, and fund raising. Remember, NAF raises funds to support conservation efforts; we are a non-profit organization. You can sign-up to volunteer on our web site. <http://nazflycasters.com/volunteer/>

EDUCATION –

The Arizona Game and Fish folks are constantly monitoring the status of the fish population at Lee's Ferry. This is typically done through nighttime electro shocking. The following is the results of the March Sampling.

“The table which shows our preliminary relative abundance numbers is presented below. As I mentioned during the talk, we observed a much reduced Rainbow relative abundance, associated mostly with the lack of juvenile size classes in the sample that we typically see in our spring monitoring. Brown trout represented 32.7% of the catch, which is much higher than observed in any of our previous sampling trips; however, relative abundance of Brown Trout was on par with averages from last year. This suggests that the large increase in % of catch is more a factor of the diminished Rainbow trout catch than an increase in Brown trout. The adult rainbow trout population seemed to be very diverse in size classes, with large fish and in decent condition, so although numbers were not necessarily where we ideally want them, it's not cause for concern yet. The summer trip will give us a better indication of the trend and our first glimpse of the 2021 spawning.

Regardless, I would say that the numbers do not suggest a numerical success for the Brown Trout incentive program (reward for turning in caught fish) at this point (perhaps the opposite could be said). The couple hundred fish that have been removed don't appear to have reversed the trend in Browns, but we will have to continue to monitor and educate.

Species	CPUE (fish/min) [95% C.I.]	Count	% of Catch
Rainbow Trout	0.829 [0.632, 1.03]	226	65.6
Brown Trout	0.406 [0.301, 0.511]	113	32.7
Flannelmouth Sucker	NA	4	1.1
Common Carp	NA	2	0.6

Ryan Mann | AQUATIC RESEARCH PROGRAM MANAGER
RESEARCH BRANCH - WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT”

If the current program for the removal of brown trout does not succeed, then more draconian methods will be used.

NAF EVENTS SCHEDULE

On hold due to the X#%&*@x Virus.

Under discussion by board

Fishing outings to local lakes

Fly casting sessions on a regular basis.

Zoom meetings

The Board welcomes suggestions from members.

NAF CLUB OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President	Charles Simpson
Vice-President	Tom Hudnall
Secretary	Mac McIlwaine
Treasurer	Denise Dean

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