



The November 2021 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 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 :

Jackson Gilmore will be our presenter this Wednesday. [Since he is still in Oregon, we will conduct the meeting via zoom.](#) Board meeting at 6, regular meeting at 7

This month, we are privileged to have Jackson Gilmore as our presenter. Jackson is a former club member who began attending the meetings before he could drive. He currently resides in Oregon and has volunteered to share his fly fishing experiences in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest with us. His presentations are outstanding. I hope to see you all there. Here is the zoom invitation:

Charles Simpson is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Northern Arizona Flycasters November Monthly Meeting
Time: Nov 3, 2021 07:00 PM Arizona

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87325152532?pwd=TWp2T2xuL0pUeUU3MnhPMU5xcWVKZz09>

Meeting ID: 873 2515 2532

Passcode: g0jdrQ

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Board Meeting 6-7 pm

Regular Club Meeting 7-8 pm

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 –

While many fly fishers envision tarpon, permit, or bonefish when they think of sight-fishing scenarios like this, it's also common along stillwater shorelines in the Rocky Mountain West, especially in early spring just after ice-out. And here's the good news: you don't need a boat.

Reservoirs, lakes, and ponds can seem overwhelming at times because there is so much water to cover, it can turn into a guessing game. In the spring, as the ice separates from the shore, the warmer water along the edges brings trout into the shallows where they feed for weeks even after the ice melts completely away. This provides concentrations of fish accessible to anglers on foot, as trout cruise within casting distance of the banks.

Unlike their river-dwelling counterparts that hold in feeding lanes awaiting a meal, stillwater trout are in constant motion. Finding the correct location to wait and ambush these cruising fish, and having the right presentation and tackle, are the keys to rewarding days from the shore.

Rigging

There are numerous ways to rig for shoreline fly fishing. One of the easiest ways to manage your fly depth is using an indicator to suspend your flies. Whether the trout are hugging the bottom or cruising near the surface looking for emerging insects, you can adjust your indicator to position your flies at the correct depth.

This becomes vital during ice-out because the trout cruise in shallow water near the shore, and you can use an indicator to keep your nymph or chironomid imitation up off the bottom. For the nymph game, start with a tapered 9-foot fluorocarbon 2X to 4X leader. At the end of the leader, attach an 18- to 24-inch fluorocarbon tippet one size smaller. For example, if you are using 3X leader, add 4X tippet to the end. Tapering down in diameter helps with a smooth transition from thick to thin, allowing the flies to turn over more effectively.

Attach your first fly using an improved clinch knot or Eugene bend knot. I usually fish with two flies by attaching a second piece of 18- to 24-inch fluorocarbon to the bend of the first hook using an improved clinch knot.

My favorite indicators for stillwaters are medium or large Thingamabobbers. These plastic balls suspend heavy rigs in even the toughest waves.

To complete the rig, you need to supply weight to sink the flies without introducing the unnatural element of split-shot. Try using a tiered system of tungsten beadheads with the heaviest flies on the bottom and lighter ones up top. Weighted flies like Garcia's Tungsten Rojo Midge, McLellan's Hunchback Scud, or a Hot Wire Prince Nymph (#12-16) are some of my favorite flies for the bottom.

Also carry Copper Johns (red, green; #12-18), Rubber-legged Hare's Ears (#12-18), Mayer's Purple Things (#12-18), Jumbo Juju Chironomids (#14-18), Chan's Ice Cream Cones (#10-16; coated with cement), McLellan's Hunchback Scuds (olive, tan, orange; #10-16), Barr's Meat Whistles (olive, rust; #6-10), Rickard's Seal Buggers (olive, burnt orange; #4-10), Pyramid Lake Tadpoles (purple, chartreuse; #6-10), Griffith's Gnats (#14-18), and Red San Juan Worms (#12-18).

NAF EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Board Meeting 6-7 pm
Regular Club Meeting 7-8 pm

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

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

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