



Official Newsletter of California Fly Fishers Unlimited, a 501c(3) Non-profit - October 2018



Lake Aleknagik, AK

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Captain Greg Morgan, guide and manager of Bearclaw Lodge, ferries anglers from the lodge to one of many fishing areas available around Lake Aleknagik.



“Bearclaw Lodge is the end of a rainbow that started on a simple bucket list.”

CFFU Calendar - OCTOBER 2018

DISCLAIMER: Dates on this calendar are subject to change. Check the CFFU website for the most up-to-date event schedules. [CFFU Calendar LINK](#)

OCTOBER	EVENT	INFORMATION LINK
2	CFFU Board Meeting	Board Meeting Link
2	General Meeting	General Meeting Link
13	President's Outing	President's Outing
18	Pyramid Lake 101 (with John Daniels)	Tech Thursday Link
24	Social Night (Fundraising Help)	Social Link
27	Kiene's Fly Tying Extravaganza	Kiene's Extravaganza Link
28	OUTING (Lower Sacramento River)	Lower Sacramento Outing

MARK YOUR CALENDAR - MAJOR EVENTS

October 13	President's Outing	President's Outing
November 11	Annual Fundraising Dinner	Annual Dinner

October 2018 Speaker - Captain Maury Hatch

Presentation: Fishing for Striped Bass in the Delta and Rivers of Northern California.

By Trevor Segelke

Maury has been fly fishing the western United States and Mexico for 30+ years. After honing his skills with trout, he hooked his first striped bass in 1995, and has been chasing, catching, and releasing stripers ever since. As a captain, he guides both out of the San Joaquin Delta in a center console bay boat in the fall and spring, and then on a jet sled on the Feather and the American Rivers in the summer for Stripers, Small Mouth and Shad. All trips include top of the line equipment as well as custom tied flies. He is an ambassador level pro staffer for the following products: Costa sunglasses, Simms clothing, Sage rods, RIO lines and Galvan reels.



Web site: firsthatchguideservice.com

Message from the President - Dave Lentz

With summer transitioning to fall there have been some fine fishing opportunities to partake. September saw two favorite outings for CFFU to draw members out and into trout-filled waters. The Mammoth Lakes outing had a number of members on Crowley Lake catching rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout. A fine potluck gathering on Saturday evening was highlighted by outstanding smoked tri tip and pork tenderloin cooked up by Mammoth Fishmeister Chuck Odell and topped off with berry cobbler... you should have been there! Another outing that draws a good crowd of CFFUers is the Upper Sacramento River outing in the Dunsmuir area. Nymphing skills were on display.


In October, we have more outing opportunities. Towards the end of the month it's a guide boat trip on the lower Sacramento organized by Fishmeister Ty Espinoza. On Saturday October 13, it's the annual President's Outing at the Green River Brewery/Taproom and event center in

Winters. You are invited to the President's Outing if you have earned your President's Pin—participated in at least two CFFU education, community ser-



vice, or conservation events, or served on a committee or held a leadership position. Past President Laurie Banks has the database with those that have

completed the qualifying "events" and have earned the "Pin." Laurie will have the list at the October meeting if you are not sure if you have earned this year's President's Pin.

This year's Outing starts off with donuts and coffee at 8:45. Those wanting to fish Putah Creek in the morning can do so with folks leaving Green River heading for Putah Creek around 9:30. WE will have some expert Putah anglers available to offer some fishing-Putah Creek advice. There will be a fabulous lunch prepared by the chef at Green River served at 1:00pm and a No-Host Bar will open at 12:00. Also there will be some entertaining fun with horseshoes, cornhole, and casting-in-a-cup contests on the lawn. Please check the CFFU website for more info on this outing and stay tuned for additional information on the list serve. The President's Outing is an event to thank those members who have helped the Club and its many activities during 2018. 

September 2018 Speaker - Dennis Lee

By Trevor Segelke

Dennis Lee came to our meeting to offer us some insights to the pros, cons, and history of the hatcheries in CA.

To many fly anglers the topics and opinions about fish hatcheries can be a sensitive one. Most, especially myself, have a strong opinion on the need and management of hatcheries and stocking programs. Dennis Lee masterfully outlined some of the good, bad, rights and wrongs that has brought us to our current standings.

Learning about how fish rearing dates back to the Romans and Chinese and, some of the philosophies/intentions that brought our hatcheries into ex-

istence, has given me quite a deeper perspective. Dennis Lee shared with us some of the mandates that the hatcheries operate under, some of the research we can gain with hatcheries, some of the side effects on past practices (good and bad), and what we could lose without the use of our hatcheries.

Without pursuing an agenda of his own, Dennis Lee gave us quite and education, encouraged us to keep learning, urged us to enjoy fishing in our state of CA, and most importantly to decide for ourselves and value of hatcheries.

Thank you, Dennis Lee.



Dennis Lee on the Rouge River.

The President's Outing - OCTOBER 13th

Breakfast



Green River Taproom
4513 Putah Creek Road
Winters, CA 95694

Are you eligible?

Check Link Below:

[President's Outing Link](#)



**Fish Putah Creek
(interdam reach)
with
Craig Williams
and
Kevin Scully**



Lunch

Postcard from Mic McPherson



Hello
from
Bristol Bay

From the Field - When Loosing Big Fish is a SUCCESS!

By Ken W. Davis

One of our guides in Alaska claimed that the fish you remember the most is the one that got away. It's true! I recently lost two fish on the Madison River that I eventually realized might be more successful than if I had got them to net. How can that be? I'll explain.

In early September, we caught lots of smaller trout on the Madison. I hooked two fish that I believe were really large. Both broke off, one at the leader - tippet connection (knot) and the other at the fly. The first broken knot was not mine, the second was mine. I was stunned. The situation haunted me for days. How could this happen?

Successful Loss: After a few days and lots of reflection, I decided that the prudent action was to review knot technology to see if I was doing something wrong.

Are the fish you remember most the ones that got away? Maybe!



In the long run its going to be a positive because I will reduce the possibility of that happening again. After all, any trip to Montana is relatively expensive and it's a bloody shame when you lose a

significant fish due to a knot that doesn't cost anything. An effective knot is cheap. Check your knots. Bad knots are embarrassing.



Alaska Outing - Bristol Bay

“The Alaskan run-of-the-mill rainbow was quite a fight and would bring bragging rights in California.”



Jim Simon with Bearclaw Lodge Guide Captain Parker O'Bannon. Parker is holding a handsome rainbow that Jim caught on the Woods River. Captain O'Bannon guides anglers in Alaska and Florida.

By Jim Simon

During the last two weeks of August, two groups of us were lucky enough to be able to go to the “Bearclaw Lodge” an Alaskan Fly Fishing Lodge, located on Lake Aleknagik. The lake empties into the Wood River and the Wood empties into Bristol Bay. Andy Penn arranged the whole affair and was the fishmeister for us. He did a great deal of work on getting the Lodge for us, making sure the arrangements were made correctly and was communicator-in-chief with the lodge for us all. [insert applause here].

The Bearclaw guides picked us up at the airport in Dillingham and jet boated us to the lodge. Thankfully the nights were still long and the introduction to the river and lake were stunning.

The daily fishing was 1 guide to two fishers, and everyday a different guide for

the fishing partners. There were many destinations for fishing, but all the fishing was in the rivers and creeks as the lake seemed to be only for transit to the rivers for the salmon, and in any case was way too deep to fly fish. The fishing skiffs were jetted as well and totally open for fly fishing purposes. We fished for Silver (Coho) Salmon, Arctic Char, Dolly Varden, Rainbow and Grayling. The waters had places where the Sockeye Salmon were so thick it was as though we went back in time to the old photos of Salmon runs where it appeared one could walk across a river on the shoals of red salmon. Although we didn't have the Pinks (Humpies) or the Sockeyes as targeted species, they took streamers and were fun to catch, at least as an introduction to Alaska. Only Silvers were

kept, and the lodge cleaned, packaged, froze and boxed the Silvers to take back with us to Sacramento.

Personally, the biggest surprise for me were the Arctic Char. They ran all the way up to 30 inches, and took streamers as well as plastic eggs. They fought well. Unfortunately, at this time of year, all the resident fish are really on the egg bite, and insect imitations don't work. Fortunately for those of us who believe the tug's the drug, streamers worked on the Char and Silvers. The other residents were generally caught under indicators. The Alaskan run-of-the-mill rainbow was quite a fight and would bring bragging rights in California. All in all a great way to get another tick on the bucket list!



Alaska Outing - Grayling



Usually I am very supportive of Ken catching fish, but not this time. He had my grayling!

By Laurie Banks

Catching a grayling has been on my bucket list. I have only seen photos of these prehistoric-looking fish and was dying to see one up close. At Bearclaw Lodge I had caught six of the seven species that I was targeting. The only one left was a grayling. All the CFFU'ers who had the guide named Barret had caught their grayling. "Barret knows where the grayling are, he'll get you on the fish," they would tell me. When it was our day to have Barret for a guide, there was no hesitation when he asked Ken and me what we wanted to do. "I want to catch a grayling!"

We headed to the "Wak" River and Barret assured me we would catch grayling; he knew where they were holding. After about three cast I had a fish on. It quickly spit out the hook and was gone. A long distance release. "That was a grayling," Barret said.

"You couldn't tell! It was too far away to

see!" I replied with angst in my voice. Barret smiled and I knew he was messing with me.

Several minutes later I had another hookup. I played this one a little longer. It got somewhat closer to the boat before it got off.

"Grayling," Barret said with a wry smile. "Maybe," I responded, not wanting to admit that I lost another one and that Barret could actually identify the fish from that far away. Was he messing with me again?

Seconds later Ken had a fish on. He got it "to net" and low and behold it was a grayling! Ken took the picture, and captured me in the background. You could tell by the look on my face I was not a happy camper. Usually I am very supportive of Ken catching fish, but not this time. He had my grayling!

It must have taken at least another 15

minutes, but I finally caught one! For a brief moment I got to marvel at its beautiful coloring and huge dorsal fin. It was one of the slimiest, squirmiest fish I had ever held and it jumped out of my hands before we could get a picture of it. But that was OK. I finally caught one of my "bucket list" fish.

We had a wonderful day on the water and it will be forever burned in my memory. Now that the pressure of getting my grayling was over I thoroughly enjoyed every fish I caught: male and female Pinks, Char, big Rainbows, Sockeye and Dolly Varden. No matter what the species, every time we had a hookup our call was not "Fish on!" but "Grayling!"



Alaska Outing - Collaboration between Guide and Client



Spotting Arctic Char with guide, Greg Morgan and client Ken Davis. The cast was made andBANG!



The battle was on. It was a difficult task in a small, fast flowing stream. The Alaska guide and CFFU client team won!



Success!!! The Arctic Char was netted and the in-stream celebration ensued.



The happy angler with the Yoku Creek Char.

Alaska Outing - The Fish

Arctic Char



Arctic Char: These gorgeous fish are members of the salmon family. During the Sockeye salmon spawning period, the Char line up at the confluence of several tributaries and Lake Aleknagik. Some also hang out in the shallow tributaries near the salmon redds.

If you want to catch lots of large fish in a short period of time, this is the fish for you. They put up a good fight, but are rather docile upon removal from the water.

Pink Salmon



Pink Salmon: This is the freshwater spawning phase of a male Pink or "Humpy." They were common in our fishing areas.

Silver Salmon



Silver Salmon: If you have not yet experienced the act of fishing for silvers you should know that the Coho are very aggressive and acrobatic fighters even in freshwater streams and rivers prior to their spawning. In some areas, catching 50 or more silvers in a day is not uncommon. Anglers are allowed to keep 5 silvers per day per the 2018 Bristol Bay regulations

Alaska Outing - The Fish

Arctic Grayling



Arctic Grayling: The grayling is a fresh-water fish that is in the salmon family. Some anglers consider the grayling a prize catch, others do not. In early summer, the Alaska grayling readily hit surface flies.

Dolly Varden



Dolly Varden: Although they were once thought of as nuisance fish that ate the eggs of more high-profile species, dollies are now prized by fly fishermen for their aggression, their size, and their remarkable colors. In spawning season, males are arrayed in brilliant pink, green, and orange and are among the more beautiful trophies of the north. They are closely related to Arctic Char. Named for Charles Dickens character with a predilection for brightly spotted dresses, the Dolly Varden char is indeed a flamboyant dresser especially during spawning season.

Sockeye Salmon



Sockeye Salmon: The sockeye or “red” salmon were extremely common during the CFFU Outing to Bristol Bay. All waterways were loaded with spawning sockeyes. At times we had to pull the flies from the pursuing sockeyes. Given the opportunity, they are known to bite anglers.

Alaska Outing - The Fish

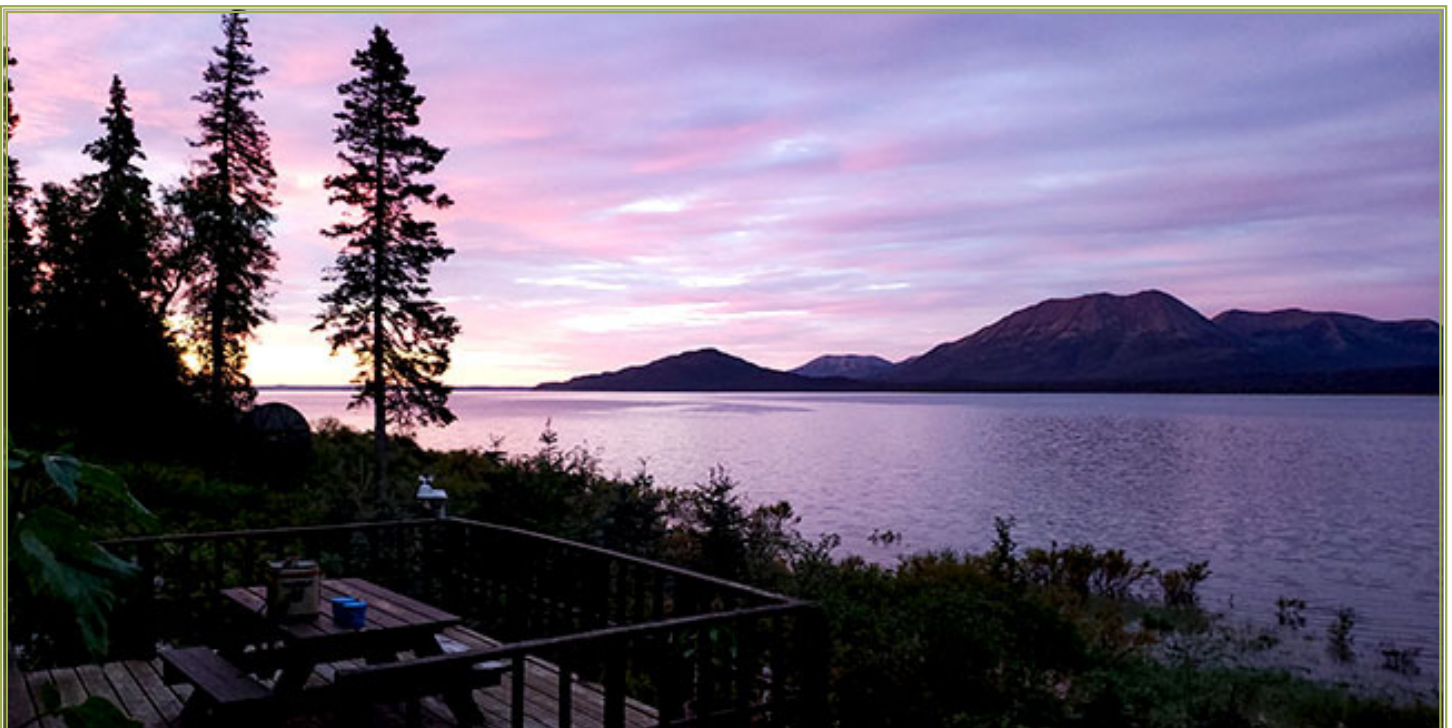
Rainbow Trout

Rainbow Trout: Rainbow Trout are one of Alaska's most sought-after sports fish. These fish have a diverse range and habitat. Some of the best fishing is located in the Bristol Bay Watershed. They will feed heavily on salmon eggs.

Rainbow trout will also feed on mice and voles that haphazardly swim across the surface of the water. In the smaller streams, they grow to monstrous sizes. While a good sized rainbow will easily weigh ten pounds, a trophy rainbow trout can weigh up to 18 pounds and be 30 inches long.



Alaska Outing - The View from Bearclaw Lodge



CFFU NEWS - Special Report

CFFU Angler is “Spermed” during Alaska outing!

By Anonymous

DILLINGHAM ALASKA

A group of twenty anglers from Sacramento recently ventured into the Alaskan hinterlands in search of a variety of fish. Many species of fish were caught by the California Fly Fishers. One unlucky guy, Rob Scafe, was singled out by the Sockeye salmon for retribution. Mr. Scafe was attacked by an angry and amorous male Sockeye. The red fish latched on to Mr. Scafe’s jacket and according to witnesses, it took a hefty pair of pliers to get the fish to release his grip. Unfortunately, the fish released a significant dose of semen on Mr. Scafe’s jacket. Take that!

After the fish was released, and a major clean-up effort, Mr. Scafe returned to fishing.

Although the report was unsubstantiated, several fishery biologists were consulted to determine if the male salmon found Mr. Scafe attractive or if it was simply squeezed too hard. We have interpreted the biologists laughter as a definite “Just squeezed too hard.”

CFFU Members were rumored to start the process to nominate Mr. Scafe for the “Wet Fly” award.



Photo by Dick Angus

On the Road with George Lazar

Alaska - The Tsiu River in August

My first day on the Tsiu River started with a ten-pound fresh-run Silver Salmon on the very first cast. The mouth of the river was in view, about a half mile away. The fish, in the best condition of their lives and so fresh that many still had sea lice clinging to their flanks, moved in visible pods from the ocean over the shallow sand bottom and on to their final destination. There were fish EVERYWHERE!

The smile hasn't left my face and my dreams have been filled with images of Salmon ever since. Honestly, I have NEVER had dreams like this before. The fact that I caught about 150 fish in three days might have something to do with it.

I owe it all to Ken Giesser and the superb video presentations showing his trips to Dierick's Tsiu River Lodge. If you were able to view his videos you know what I'm talking about.

Greg Dierick and his sister Darcy are co-owners of this clean, efficiently run, and reasonably priced operation located an hour's flight North of Yakutat Alaska. The food is good and there's plenty of it. Our dinners included prime rib, tri-tip, barbecued pork ribs, salmon and ling cod. We missed "Seafood Night" by one day.

Greg and Darcy move many clients through the lodge every week with great attention to detail and clockwork precision. The only time it gets a little hectic is when the plane is on the ground dropping off and picking up clients.

You can start fishing as early as you like and fish until late. A trailer/wagon contraption towed by an ATV takes you on a three mile ride to the lower river to begin fishing soon after your mid-day arrival. On your full day you can choose to have lunch on the stream or return to the lodge to eat there and have a little rest before going back out. After dinner you can return to the river and fish until nine or ten o'clock.



George Lazar holding a mighty silver salmon.

The cabins aren't fancy but clean, comfortable and complete. There were boardwalks everywhere so I just wore my bedroom slippers around camp. There is a heated changing room where we were able to dry out our wading gear. I like that.

Bears can be a problem. One hungry fellow grabbed two of our fish, removed the hook from one and kindly returned the fly. I had to wrap the line around my reel and break a fish off, losing a brand new \$5 Dolly Lama. I hope THAT salmon makes lots of babies! The guides carry bear spray and firearms so we never felt that we were in harm's way.

This is a quick easy fishing trip that doesn't require much gear. Bring two 8 wt rods with floating lines and a box of flies. (Andy Guibord from Kienes suggested using a Rio Outbound Short in order to better turn over the heavy streamers and it worked like a charm.) Carry good rain gear and hat as well as some fingerless gloves. Fifteen pound Maxima is all you need for leader material.

I had great success with chartreuse and white Dolly Lamas and Clouser Minnows but other colors will certainly work. The black and white, and pink and white Dolly Lamas can be equally effective. I switched to a cherry colored popper for awhile and caught fish. The strikes were not as frequent but it sure was fun watching those big fish coming to the surface. The first fish to take my popper rose to sip it as if it were a mayfly...ever so delicately. What a sight!

Silvers are not difficult to catch. This is not spring creek fishing. Cast straight at the fish, point your rod at the fly and start stripping. I use a strip set and a low sideways set with the rod and that usually does the job. Then be ready because you never know what they'll do. Some silvers jump and others don't. One of the fish I caught jumped 13 times.

The lodge has a small section in the dining room called "The Wall of Shame" that will prove to you how easily these sex crazed creatures can be fooled. The wall

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Alaska - The Tsiu River in August continued

consists of about two dozen hand-made lures and flies that defy description. If you can fool three salmon into eating your creation then you qualify to have your device displayed on the wall and you get to take credit for it.

This was one of the best fishing trips I have ever experienced! Unfortunately, things slowed down at one point...I was catching a fish on every cast and then all of a sudden I had to start casting twice! If you have any questions feel free to corner me.



A trailer/wagon contraption towed by an ATV takes you on a three mile ride to the lower river to begin fishing soon after your mid-day arrival.

Salmon Recipe - From Chef John at Bearclaw Lodge

Chef John made us some incredible Salmon Cakes for dinner one night at Bearclaw Lodge. Here is his recipe:

In a bowl combine the bulleted ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups Panko
- 4 1/2 Tbsp. parsley
- 1 bunch scallions- finely chopped
- 4 1/2 ounces mayonnaise
- 1.5 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 1.5 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- .75 Tbsp. Old Bay seasoning
- .75 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- .5 tsp Kosher salt
- .5 tsp cayenne pepper
- 5 eggs beaten

Add 2.25 lbs. salmon baked and flaked and mix thoroughly (don't be gentle!) Roll onto 1 1/2 cups Panko and shape into 2.5" balls, then flatten to 3/4 inch.

Grease large skillet with 4 Tbsp. olive oil. Cook on medium /high heat about 3 minutes per side.



Serve with quartered lemons – and Mr. Yoshida sauce if in Alaska.

Yields about 14 salmon cakes depending on size.

Enjoy!!

Conservation - Bristol Bay and Pebble Mine

By Keith Pfeifer

BRISTOL BAY

The Geography

The Bristol Bay watershed in southwestern Alaska sits between two remote and rugged national parks, Lake Clark and Katmai. This region supports the largest commercial sockeye salmon fishery in the world, is home to 25 federally recognized tribal governments and contains large mineral resources. The Nushagak and the Kvichak River watersheds are the largest of Bristol Bay's six major river basins and compose approximately 50% of the total water systems. Lake Iliamna, Alaska's largest body of fresh water is also part of this vast watershed.

The Fish and Wildlife

This pristine ecosystem provides habitat for numerous animal species, including more than 190 birds, 40 terrestrial mammals and 29 fishes. All five species of Pacific salmon (sockeye, coho, Chinook, chum, pink), as well as rainbow trout, lake trout, Arctic grayling and char, Dolly Varden, northern pike and whitefish are found in this watershed. All salmon populations are wild; therefore, they require clean water and abundant spawning habitat in the upper headwaters of these Bristol Bay river systems. Pristine spawning habitat is especially critical for the sockeye salmon, whose spawning numbers are in the tens of millions annually. Approximately 50% of the Bristol Bay sockeye salmon production comes from the Nushagak and Kvichak River watersheds.

The People

The Yup'ik Eskimos and Dena'ina Athabaskans live in the Nushagak and Kvichak watersheds, and these Native groups are two of the last intact, sustainable salmon-based Native cultures in the world. Salmon are integral to their way of life not only as a subsistence food, but also as the foundation for their language, spirituality and social structure. These cultures have a strong connection to



One of 61 million salmon that entered Bristol Bay in 2018. Ken Davis image.

their environment and its resources. This bond has been maintained for at least 4,000 years, in part due to the responsible respect of this ecosystem and its resources. Fourteen of Bristol Bay's 25 Alaska Native villages and communities are within the Nushagak and Kvichak River watersheds, with a total population of approximately 4,337.

The Economy

Commercial fishing has provided the foundation of Bristol Bay's economy for more than a century. In order to avoid over-fishing and excessive competition, Bristol Bay is a limited-entry fishery, with approximately 2,800 commercial fishing permits available each year. In order to ensure that there are sufficient salmon to reach their spawning tributaries, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game closes the commercial fishery for specific lengths of time each season, depending on the estimates of returning fish. Thousands of full and part-time jobs are also dependent on the health of the Bristol Bay salmon fishery.

Sport fishing, hunting and tourism are stable activities of the Bristol Bay economy and are also dependent on maintaining the environmental health of this popular region. Total recreation and tourism spending, including license sales, is estimated at close to \$200 million annually, with sport fishing account-

ing for \$166 million of that total spending. This revenue also supports at least 1200 full and part-time seasonal jobs.

The Minerals

The Nushagak and Kvichak River watersheds contain considerable mineral deposits. The potential for large-scale mining development is greatest for copper, and to a lesser extent, for gold. These mineral deposits are considered to be "low-grade", meaning that they contain relatively small amounts of metals relative to the total ore amount. This type of mining is economically feasible only by mining over a large area, which results in a tremendous amount of waste material after processing the ore.

THE PEBBLE MINE

The Geography

The proposed site for the Pebble Mine is approximately 15 miles north and upstream of Lake Iliamna. It is 200 miles southwest of Anchorage. It is remote and wild, with the nearest Native communities about 20 miles downstream from the site. The area is characterized by relatively flatland, "dotted" by glacial ponds, interspersed with isolated mountains or ranges of hills. Several streams and rivers run near the proposed site and eventually flow into Lake Iliamna and finally into Bristol Bay at Dillingham.

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Conservation - Bristol Bay and Pebble Mine

The Geology

This area is part of the Kahiltna terrane and characterized by old basalt, andesite and sedimentary rocks. More recently, in geological terms, volcanic, sedimentary rocks and glacial deposits developed over the older rocks.

The Lake Clark fault lies within 20 miles of the proposed Pebble site. Several hundred miles to the north is another fault called the Denali fault, which had a 7.9 magnitude earthquake in 2002. Part of the Aleutian Trench, another active zone, lies approximately 125 miles south of the mine site. In 1964, this was the source of the Good Friday “quake” with a magnitude of 9.2.

The Minerals

The Pebble site is characterized by a continuous body of ore, known as Pebble West, where mineralization extends to the surface, and Pebble East, where the ore is deeply buried. The Pebble ore is considered to be “low-grade”, which requires a large-scale operation to extract the minerals. The Pebble ore is a porphyry copper-gold-molybdenum deposit. These are the minerals that are the focus of the proposed mining activities. This ore body is found near the surface and extends to at least 5,600 feet under ground. In 2008, the Pebble site was estimated to be the second largest ore deposit of its type in the world in terms of mineral value. In 2010, it was estimated that the Pebble site contains over \$300 billion worth of recoverable minerals

The Project

The Pebble land is owned by the State of Alaska, with various companies since the 1980s owning the mineral rights. Currently, The Northern Dynasty Minerals, a Canadian-based company, purchased the mineral rights and began exploration in 2002, which has continued into 2018. Currently, Northern Dynasty owns 100% of the Pebble mineral rights.

While the exact details of the mine’s structure and related mining activities have not been publicly finalized, a general “outline” has been assumed from various Pebble Mine applications. Pebble West would be mined as an open pit, which may reach 2 miles wide and several thousand feet deep. Most of the rock removed from the pit would become waste, which could reach as much as 10 billion tons. The waste, along with chemicals used in the ore processing, would be stored permanently in two artificial lakes behind earthen dams. The largest would be 740 feet tall and 4.3 miles long. Pebble East would likely be an underground mine. The required infrastructure for such a massive operation includes miles of roads, bridges over several rivers, a large power plant and power lines, along with a 188 mile-long natural gas pipeline over land and under Lake Iliamna.

Environmental Concerns

From a fisheries and environmental perspective, it is hard to imagine a worst location to build a “mega-mine”. The risks for an environmental disaster are substantial. Just the construction of roads, bridges and other initial infrastructure will likely have a negative impact on the streams and lakes. More significantly, the possibility of a major seismic event with the release of tons of acid-laden waste moving down through this pristine watershed is beyond comprehension. Even without an earthquake, there could be “accidents” or weather conditions that result in the leaching or drainage of waste from the “pits” into the headwater streams. Pipelines carrying fuel or mineral slurries can leak. Trucks hauling ore concentrates to the downstream port at Cook Inlet near Bristol Bay could have an accident along a river or crossing a bridge. Building a large port facility on Cook Inlet may impact the habitat, not only of salmon, but also of otters, seals and whales.

The potential permanent environmental

damage associated with the building and operating Pebble Mine is not worth the brief economic reward to a few corporate people and their investors.

Some Current Final Thoughts

In January 2018, then EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, decided to withdraw the support of the current administration for Pebble Mine project. It appears that many of the Bristol Bay stakeholders who opposed the mine are high-level Republican donors.

In March 2018, the Army Corps of Engineers began the early phases of an Environmental Impact Statement review for the Pebble Mine. This process would appear to contradict the decision of the Pruitt-EPA to not support the building of the Pebble Mine.

In April 2018, a “Stand for Salmon” petition was submitted to the Alaska Division of Elections in support of having a “Yes for Salmon Initiative” on the ballot in the November general election. If passed, this initiative would give Alaska’s state agencies the authority and legal backing to reject projects like the Pebble Mine. In May 2018, an investor in the Pebble Mine, First Quantum Minerals, pulled out of its partnership with Northern Dynasty, leaving the future funding of the project in question.



Interview with Jim & Aly Cardoza

By Laurie Banks

As I watched Aly Cardoza's Fish Camp presentation at our September General Meeting I marveled at the poise and confidence of CFFU's youngest member. Last week I met with Aly and her father, Jim, and over milkshakes had a chance to interview both of them.

Laurie: Jim, let's start with you. How long have you been fly fishing?

Jim: I started when I was 12 years old. My grandfather was a fly fisherman. We drove up the coast through Canada to Alaska in a motor home and fly fished the whole way. I can remember catching Grayling and Dolly Varden. I still have a Loomis 8 wt. that was my grandfathers. I fly fished for years then life got busy and I stopped. I didn't pick it up again until about 4 years ago and now I can't stop!

Laurie: You like to tie flies too. Did your grandfather teach you that too?

Jim: Yes, back in those days we only used dry flies and fished on top water of rivers. Really the only pattern we used was a mosquito. If we fished a quarry or lake we tied scud patterns.

Laurie: Did your grandmother fish too?

Jim: No, she stayed in the motor home and knitted. She cooked the fish we bought home. I remember how good grayling tasted.

Laurie: What places do you like to fish?

Jim: I love Putah Creek and the Little Truckee is another of my favorites. Every day I check flows on the rivers. The Little Truckee is running at 40 cfs and has been that way for a long time. I like to fish it at 80-100 cfs. It's a long drive to Truckee and takes the whole day, whereas I can fish at Putah for just a few hours. I like to fish on Mondays if I can get away from work. The weekends are crowded, but Aly is back in school now.

Laurie: How did you hear about CFFU?

Jim: At the ISE, about 2 years ago.

Laurie: I remember when I first met you. We were walking to the parking lot af-



“It was the first fish I caught on a fly rod. I caught lots more. The biggest one was over 20 inches.”

ter a meeting and I said that it's hard enough to get sons and grandsons involved in fly fishing, how did you get Aly interested? Your response was. "I have four girls". Speaking of your daughters. Aly and your youngest Gracyn both tied flies at the ISE in the Federation's booth.

Jim: All three of us did. I really enjoyed it. People would come by and talk to you about fly tying.

Laurie: How did you get Aly interested in fly fishing?

Jim: Our family loves to camp. When camping, we take spin rods for the girls. We were at Camp Sacramento and they had just planted. They girls had a great time catching planters on ultra-light spinning poles while I fly fished. I asked Aly if she wanted to try fishing with a fly rod and she did. We were at the Yuba outing 2 years ago and she was wading up to her waist. I always try to keep her

upstream from me.

Laurie: Thanks for driving Aly to Fish Camp. That was a long drive for you.

Jim: It was a busy week. We had softball tournaments the weekend before and after. We got to Camp early and walked around. It's a beautiful place. We saw deer and were surprised at size of fish in the creek.

Laurie: OK Aly, your turn. I hear that besides fly fishing you are a good student and have a lot of other interests and hobbies.

Aly: I play softball. I'm on the cheer team for Folsom high. I play violin in the Orchestra and I am in two clubs. With one club we visit junior high and elementary schools to promote an anti-drug campaign. Oh, and I'm also starting gymnastics this week.

[continued on page 18](#)

Interview with Jim & Aly Cardoza

Laurie: Although Aly is too modest to admit it she also has A's in Spanish 3, Integrated math and Honors English. Jim says he is blessed with smart children and they get their brains from their mom.

Laurie: After break at the September General Meeting you gave a fantastic presentation about Fish Camp. I wish more people could have been there to see it. Can you tell some of the highlights for the people who didn't get a chance to hear it?

Aly: There were 21 kids there, 4 girls and 17 guys. The girls and our counselor shared a tent. The first day they went over rod rigging and knots. I already knew most of that. After the first day we had to rig our rods by ourselves. We would fish twice a day. Once in the morning and again in the evening. We stripped streamers on the upper and lower lake from the bank. In the afternoons we had free time. We could take showers then and get together to play softball or ultimate Frisbee.

Laurie: What is your favorite memory?

Aly: When I caught my first fish from the lake. They taught us how to play the fish and hold the rod. I got it to the net. It was the first fish I caught on a fly rod. I caught lots more. The biggest one was over 20 inches. We also had fly tying lessons. They held a contest for the most original fly and I won. I named my



Aly and Jim Cardoza at Antelope Creek Ranch which is north of Mt. Shasta. Aly looks excited, her father not so much. Jim had to leave his daughter and return home.

fly the *Alybaetis*. The prize was a chest pack and fly tying supplies.

Laurie: Terrific! What else did you learn?

Aly: They helped improve my cast and I learned to double haul.

Laurie: Pretty soon you'll be teaching it!

Aly: I was asked to come back next year as a counselor.

Laurie: Aly, that's terrific! It sounds like you had a great time! Thanks you two for spending time talking to me.

Note to CFFU'ers: If you haven't had a

chance to talk to Jim and Aly, you might find them before the October General Meeting casting on the grass trying to see who can double-haul the farthest. Aly and her sister Gracyn will also be demo fly tyers at Kiene's fly tying expo. Hopefully she will be demonstrating her award-winning *Alybaetis*. I am really happy that CFFU funded Aly's trip to Fish Camp from the Susan Sylstra memorial fund. It was a very worthwhile investment. Aly is a model for the future of fly fishing.



[Link to Larry Lee's website](#)



CFFU Members & Tyers - Aly and Gracyn Cardoza

Does this get any better?



Fly Tying Extravaganza

October 27th

FEATURING!

Two fly tying prodigies-*who happen to be sisters*-that are graduates of our fly tying program here at Kienes.



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Hagan Community Park Fish Derby - September 15th

By Tim Au Young

Hello all! Well, another year has come and gone, and so has this year's Hagan Community Park Fish Derby. With all of the dominos set ready to fall, everything happened as hoped for except the catch rate!

Unfortunately, fewer fish than we anticipated were dropped off Thursday before the event. Locals netted and fished out the pond until the wee hours of the night before the event, even though park employees tried to stop the poaching by posting signs, and requesting the Rancho Cordova Police Department patrol the area. While the catch rate was low, technology and friendships added up to more than what was hoped for.



Huge kudos go to:

1. Sacramento County, Therapeutic Recreation Services, TRS
2. The Big Red Worm Company
3. The Carmichael Kiwanis
4. Department of Fish and Wildlife, and last, BUT NOT Least, your CFFU members: Nick Ciani, Michael Roberts, Roman Gardea (Net), Melanie Welborn, Mary Ellen Mueller (donuts), Trevor Segelke, Andy Penn, Bill Conway, Richard Stinson, Craig McCulloch, Jim and Alyson Cardoza, Jim Walker, Louis Hein, Henry Sanders, Richard Whitmire, Ed Morell, Jeff Stephens (stinky bait!), Don Moura (wonderful oatmeal cookies!), Pam Foster, John Daniels (2 cases of

water!), Diana Segelke, Paul Woolley, Sheila Cavanaugh (worm picker upper), Kevin Terrill, Michael Williams, Jeff Howard (fantastic cream puffs goodies, and coffee!), Amy Terra, Michael Ewing, Mic McPherson, with Stan and Mihn Stolt.

There was much conversation about the events of the day, and for next year, there will be changes in how and when fish are delivered. I will have discussions with club members, then go to the CFFU Board with a proposal to bid out fish for delivery.

This was the second year in a row that catch rates were bad to dismal. Three years ago, when fish were delivered the morning of the event, many fish

were caught all morning long, along with cheers, screams, smiles and a lot of cheer.

I cannot thank the dedicated organizations and CFFU volunteers putting their whole-hearted efforts in to making the most of what could be done that day. In the end, the Carmichael Kiwanians provided a fantastic lunch for all of the participants, their care providers, and CFFU volunteers. This capped off the end of a great day of perfect weather, fishing, and enjoying each other's company.

So until next year, happy trails to you, until, we meet again.



[Link to Fly Fishing Specialties Website](#)



FLY FISHING SPECIALTIES
Wild Rivers to Blue Waters

6360 Tupelo Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621

Annual Dinner - November 11, 2018

By Laurie Banks

CFFU's Annual Dinner will be here in a little over a month (November 11th). If you have an item you wish to donate, please bring it to the October General Meeting. (All items are tax deductible.) There are two ways you can buy your dinner tickets, either at the October meeting, or from our website. For complete details, or to buy tickets go to:

<http://www.cffu.org/annual-dinner.html>.

Don't miss out on this fun-filled evening!!

A big thanks to Simms for donating a certificate for 40% off one of their products. Our raffle winner can choose either men's or women's waders, a jacket, vest, or a boat bag.



Tech Thursday - Building Leaders

By Jeff Stephens

A great time was had by all at September's Tech Thursday. More than twenty CFFU members attended. Members learned how to make tight-line, dry and furred leaders. Thanks to Craig Williams and Trevor Segelke for sharing their knowledge of leaders and providing lots of handouts.



August Demo Tyer - Christie Roberts

Photo by James Simon

Christie Roberts was the demonstration tyer this month. She tied the Renegade on a size 10-18 dry fly hook using dark brown 6/0 or 8/0 thread. The tag is a piece of silver mylar tied over the slope of the hook. The rear hackle is brown neck or saddle hackle. The body is 4 or 5 wraps of peacock herl wrapped about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the hook shank. The front hackle is white neck or saddle hackle.

The next gift certificate will be raffled in September for the months of August and September.



[Tackle Shop Website Link](#)



[Link to Scribner Bend Website](#)



**Scribner Bend
Vineyards is
on the Delta!**

August 2018 Fly Tyers Exchange - Submitted by Don Wallace

Photos by James Simon



Rob Scafe tied a Woolly Buggy on a size 3XL Mustad 9672 hook using olive brown thread (match the body color). The tail is olive marabou. The body is olive chenille wrapped with copper wire. The hackle is grizzly dyed olive.



William (Bill) Conway tied a Mini-Clouser on a size 2 Eagle Claw hook using hot red #6 thread. The eyes are dumbbell eyes. The tail is white deer hair with four strands of flash. The body is thread wrapped around the white deer hair and a clump of green deer hair on top. Finish forming a head or nose in front of the eyes and coat with clear nails at the head.



Christie Roberts tied a Modified Lance Gray Hex Nymph on an Umpqua U 302 or TMC 9295 size 6 hook with 15 wraps of size .025 lead free wire using Danville Flymaster 3/0 cream thread. The eyes are small black bead chain. The tail is olive pheasant tail. The body is Wapsi antron charcoal gray (used for this example was charcoal and blue winged olive superfine dubbing). The gills are natural grey filoplume/semiplume (used here was sharptail grouse but you could use Hungarian partridge or pheasant and shorten to gill length.) The rib is medium brass or gold wire. The thorax is the same as the body and the wingcase is natural turkey wing. The legs are olive pheasant tail.



Tim Au-Young tied a Griffith's Gnat on a Masu size 18 dry fly hook using Uni Iron Grey 8/0 thread. The body and the abdomen are 2 strands of Peacock herl and the rib is extra small gold wire. The hackle is dry fly saddle hackle. The original pattern does not call for ribbing the body, but everyone knows it is a good rule to rib your peacock herl rope so it does not come apart.

October 2018 Fly of the Month - Orange Comet (Variant)

By Jim Berdan

COMMENTS:

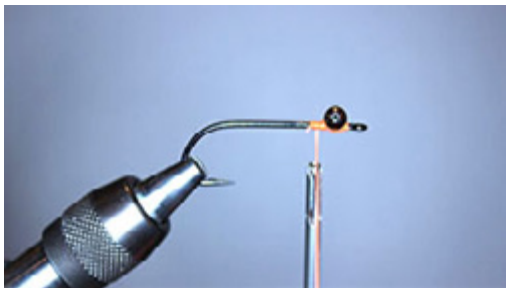
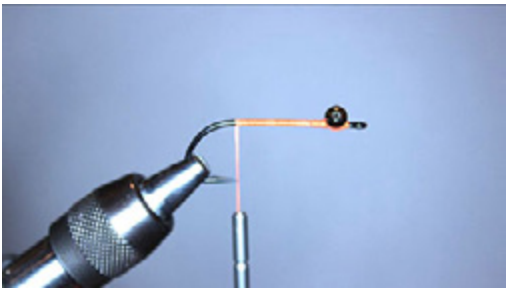

The Orange Comet is believed to have been tied originally in Northern California by Lloyd Silvis in the early 1940's, and fished in the coastal rivers of California and Oregon for salmon and steelhead. The fly is typified by bead chain eyes and a long tail. It has been reported that the Comet was a favorite fly of the legendary Bill Schaadt (1922-1993) on the Russian River, his home water.

Although an old pattern, today it can be tied with a variety of modern materials, such as craft fir in lieu of bucktail, and tied in colors such as chartreuse, red, black, and blue. Here I've tied it using original and new materials. Hook shape and size is up to you, it can be tied in sizes 1/0, 2, 4, 6, and 8, for Salmon and Steelhead, or tied in smaller sizes, 8 and 10, for shad.







Materials

- Hook:** Daiichi 2141 Size 4
- Thread:** Hot Orange – Danville's Waxed Flymaster Plus – 210 Denier
- Eyes:** Silver Bead Chain – Large
- Tail:** Hot Orange Bucktail with 2 Stands of UV Pearl Krystal Flash
- Body:** Flat Braid – Pearl
- Hackle:** UV Polar Chenille followed by Hot Orange Schlappen

Orange Comet (Variant)

STEP	IMAGE	TYING INSTRUCTIONS
1.		Photo 1 – Pinch the barb. Start your thread behind the eye and wrap towards the bend about ¼ inch before trimming the tag. Next tie in the bead chain eyes using the figure 8 method and a couple drops of super glue or head cement.
2.		Photo 2 – Continue wrapping the thread back to the bend and stop just above the hook point.
3.		Photo 3 – Tie-in a small clump of bucktail and secure it on top of the hook shank. End with the thread at the tie-in point.

Orange Comet (Variant)

STEP	IMAGE	TYING INSTRUCTIONS
4.		Photo 4 – Tie-in two strands of Krystal Flash, one on each side of the bucktail, and trim to the length of the tail.
5.		Photo 5 – Tie-in the flat braid on top of the bucktail and secure as shown.
6.		Photo 6 – With the braid, make the first wrap behind the tail and then with touching turns wrap forward as shown, secure and trim the excess.
7.		Photo 7 – Tie-in the Polar Chenille and make two or three wraps, secure, and trim the excess.
8.		Photo 8 – Tie-in the tip end of hackle feather, concave side towards the hook shank, and make three or four wraps, folding the fibers back as you wrap, secure and trim the excess. Now whip finish and apply head cement. Option: apply a UV resin to further secure the bead eyes and form a smooth head.
9.		Photo 9 – The finish fly. Give it a try for salmon or steelhead.

CFFU Club Meetings

First Tuesday of each month.

Richard Conzelmann Community Center ([PDF Map Link](#))
2201 Cottage Way, Sac., CA 95825

General Meeting Schedule:

6:15 p.m.: Fly Tying Demo
7:00 p.m.: Program Presentation
8:00 p.m.: Club Information

CFFU Membership

New Member: Individual: \$40.00

New Member: Family: \$55.00
(Includes spouse and children under 18 years old.)

New Member: Junior: \$25.00 (Under 18 years old)

New Membership Dues:

(Includes \$10 initiation fee.)
After September 1, annual fees are pro-rated through
December 31.

JOIN CFFU: Membership Form: ([PDF Link](#))

CFFU RENEW Membership Online: ([PDF Link](#))

CFFU Board of Directors

Please visit the CFFU Website for information about the
Officers, Directors and Club Committee Leaders

[LINK to CFFU Leaders](#)

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Newsletter Submissions

All submissions, images and other material are due by the
25th of the month. The Newsletter Editor reserves the right
to reject any article or image that does not meet the Editor-
ial Guidelines.

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Banner Image

Arctic Char caught by Gary Flanagan on the first day of the
CFFU Outing to Bearclaw Lodge, Dillingham Alaska.

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