

Fly Lines

The official publication of the British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers

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On Our cover . . .



“Released to fight again”
White Lake, Salmon Arm, BC

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New President's Message

The past year has been full and interesting. The BCFFF communicated with a number of governmental agencies through attending meetings and writing letters that support our interests. Among the meetings we've attended are the following: the symposium on Bill C-45. Angler Participation Workshops hosted by the Freshwater Fisheries Society and the Cheakamus Ecosystem Restoration Stakeholder Team meetings. Board members continued serving our needs by representing us on several government sponsored boards such as Provincial Quality Waters Management Committee, the newly created Freshwater Fisheries Advisory Committee and several Sports Fishing Advisory boards.

The May AGM signaled the beginning of a new year for the BCFFF. Our effort to represent fly anglers will continue along the same path as last year. We will continue to focus on fishery issues (particularly declining steelhead populations and angler access), communicate and represent our interests with various governmental agencies and other organizations, and help the various regional clubs and individual members as needed. In addition we will look at a number of important issues that will help to direct the future of our organization namely: succession planning, the continued emphasis on increasing membership and a drive to focus on young fly anglers.

As the newly installed President of the British Columbia Federation of Fly Fishers I'd like to offer my thanks to past Presidents Gil Sage and Peter Caverhill. They have been mentors for me and other board members as we moved ahead this past year, and will most certainly play a role in helping the board this coming year.

No organization is without challenges. This year will most certainly present some for the board and membership. I look forward to working with the board, clubs and individual members to make this coming year a very productive and rewarding one. Please contact me or any of the board with issues, ideas or concerns.

Great Fly Angling to You!

Pat Micek

Fishing Alone: Watch your Rod

By Art Lingren

Every season rods and reels are lost overboard so take head if you are out in the boat alone protect your equipment.

I could start this vignette with the cliché “it was a cold, blustery, rainy evening” and all but the cold part would be true. It was a day in mid-June 2006 just before the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Charlie Brumwell and I had arrived at the lake around lunch time and through the afternoon had some good trout fishing.

I parked the truck and camper on a level spot accessed through a swale on the lake’s steep bank. Being high above the lake it gave us a good view and we could sit and look through the windows at the lake and look for fish boils and observe the waterfowl, shore birds and ground squirrels that share the area with us. The aluminum, accordion camper stairs are great for adjusting to fit the variable distances one finds when camping on uneven ground but not all steps end up level. The late spring storm came around



dinnertime, but even with the rain we looked forward to spending a couple of more hours on the lake. After dinner Charlie needed to do some business out side but when he stepped outside he lost his footing on a slanting camper stair and went down hard on his left side. He didn’t feel he needed to go to the local clinic but decided to forgo the evening fishing and rest his battered side.

Charlie Brumwell casting off the wharf

This was the first evening of our four-day trip and I was eager to give the evening fishing a try. The rain poured down as only it can do in late spring or early summer and even I with all my enthusiasm didn’t last long in the deluge. I was rowing back to the wharf with my line trailing behind the boat, the butt of the rod and reel resting on the raft’s floor near me so I could grab the rod if by chance a fish took the fly. I think I must have

turned around to see where I was in relation to the wharf when a fish did grab the fly and before I knew it the fish was ripping line from the reel. I didn't react fast enough to the sound of the reel. By the time I turned around the rod had been pulled to the end of the raft and I watched in horror as my rod was towed over the inflated tube into the water and as the rod sped through the water and sank. I looked to see if the floating line was about but I couldn't see the grey-coloured line in the darkening evening and under the cloudy sky. This lake has a weedy bottom and many of the fish that I have caught from it over the past 25 years have fouled my line in those weeds.

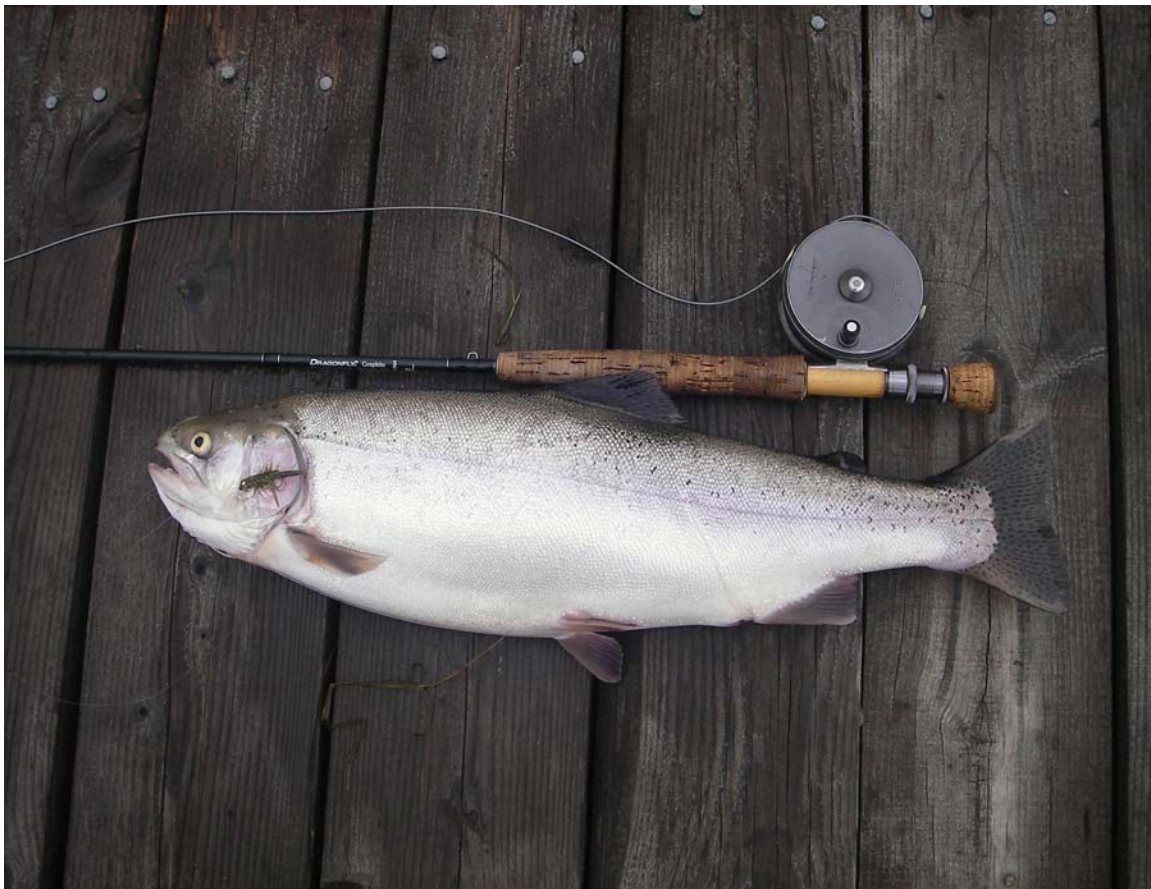


We camped next to a colony of ground squirrels

I was somewhat philosophical when I got back to the camper and told Charlie the story. I lost a 3 3/8inch Hardy Perfect reel with a DT 6 floating line on a six weight, \$120 Korean-made graphite rod. I was not happy losing the outfit but would have been really annoyed if it was my Bob Clay bamboo rod, which I usually use for Interior trout fishing. That rod I decided at the last minute to leave at home opting for the graphite. Nonetheless there was still \$500 dollars worth of equipment that went over the side. But I mused that it wasn't my bamboo rod and I do have two other Hardy Perfects of 3 3/8" and 3 5/8" for trout fishing.

Charlie suggested that I try dragging his anchor though the likely part of the lake in the morning. Maybe I could snag the line. After breakfast the next morning I dredged the lake with a pronged anchor hoping to foul the fly or backing line but after numerous tries in the area in which I thought the rod had sank and probably fouled in the weed-infested lake bottom I had no luck. I hollered to Charlie on shore that I was going to go out much further and try one last drag. I started way out past where I figured the rod would have sank to the bottom and snagged up and worked towards shore but still no rod. But horseshoe luck was with me. As I pulled the line and anchor up I looked over the left side of the raft and dammed if I didn't see my rod tip almost poking through the surface. The

fish after yanking the rod overboard continued its escape parallel to the shore then instead of heading out into the lake it made a left angle turn towing the line and rod into the weeds in the lake shallows. I retrieved the rod, reeled in the line and had to untangle the line from a mass of weeds but then to my to my surprise when all was loose I reeled in a dead rainbow trout of close to 5 1/2 lb. When you fish a lot you wonder why some fish get off the line when you do everything right. I thought this fish would throw the barbless hook or break the leader when the line fouled in the weeds and I never thought I would see my rod and reel again let alone the fish. But this was one of the fish that just couldn't get away and no matter what it did was destined to be caught even if it was over 12 hours later.



I reeled in a dead rainbow trout of close to 5 1/2 lb

Threat to Upper Pitt River

Gil Sage

Many have undoubtedly heard of independent power projects (IPPs). At some point in the not too distant past the BC Liberal government decided that BC Hydro would no longer build power projects and that function should be left to private enterprise and thus the idea of micro hydro projects was pushed to the forefront. This is like the new gold rush as there are some 500 projects under consideration. These IPPs are referred to as micro hydro if they have a generating capacity of less than 5MW while those with greater capacity are called small hydro projects.

These IPPs are often referred to as run of the river as the water is diverted from a stream and eventually returned at some point downstream. A dam or weir is constructed at the top of a stream/river to collect and divert the water into a penstock, which runs downhill into a powerhouse through a turbine and then returned to the stream/river. The penstocks can be a couple of kilometers in length and require the clearing of forested areas down to the powerhouse. Transmission lines are then constructed to deliver the power to the grid. Roads have to be constructed to facilitate the building and servicing of the weir, penstocks, powerhouse and transmission lines. In the case of the Upper Pitt new dock facilities will also have to be constructed.

The project on the Upper Pitt, first proposed in mid 2006 calls for facilities on Boise, Homer, Pinecone, Steve, Bucklin, Shale, Corbold and East Corbold Creeks, the capacity would vary from 16 to 35 MW with a total capacity of 160 MW, the powerhouses would be linked by transmission lines then the proposal calls for a transmission line to be pushed through the Pinecone Burke Provincial Park to tie into the lines in the Squamish area.

Initially many thought that IPPs were a great idea as proponents pushed the idea that unlike the massive dam projects of the past IPPs had minimal environment impact. While the impact is small in comparison to a massive dam the localized changes are far from insignificant. One really needs to look at the impact from the construction process, road building and maintenance, the reduction of water flow over a section of stream, the return of possible nitrogen enriched water to the stream. What is the cost of turning over control of a section of stream by giving a private company a 30 year renewable lease? What is to prevent that private/public company from either selling to another or being taken over in a hostile takeover bid?

The first I heard of the Upper Pitt proposal was at a May 18th meeting of various environmental groups and concerned individuals. Two public meeting were held in early December 2006. This project is well underway it is my understanding that the project proponents will be submitting their environmental assessment documents to the government by mid June then the public will have 30 days to comment after which the

government has 180 days to render its decision. Apparently the government has never refused an environmental certificate for an IPP project. The government has previously passed legislation that prohibits any local government from blocking an IPP project. The government has previously indicated its willingness to redrawing park boundaries to meet the needs of the time.

Are all IPPs bad probably not as each project must be assessed on its own merits; however the proposal for the Upper Pitt seems to be screaming that this is just not the right place can you imagine that valley scarred by the construction of some 8 powerhouses, 26 kilometers of penstocks and crisscrossed by transmission lines.

What can you do? At this point what is needed is individuals to write letters to their MLA and Minister Penner expressing their concern about the environmental and visual impact the project will have on the Upper Pitt Valley and outrage the a company would propose building transmission lines through a provincial park. Your letters need not be long simply state your concerns. The address for Minister Penner is:

The Honorable Barry Penner
Minister of Environment
P.O. Box 9047 Stn Prov Gov't
Victoria B.C. V8W 9E2

There are some interesting website to check out:

1. Mark Hume's article at http://www.salmonopolis.ca/salmonopolis/dynamicImages/2791_Green_power.htm
2. Check out BC Creek Protection Societies site at <http://www.bc-creeks.org/>
3. For a summary of water for power licenses check out <http://www.bcpolitics.ca/SummaryHydro1.htm>
4. The proponent of the Upper Pitt power project are a company called Northwest Cascade Power which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Run of The River Power Incorporated, their website is presently under construction but check on it at: <http://www.runofriverpower.com/>
5. The Environmental Assessment Office's website is <http://www.eao.gov.bc.ca/>

WONDERFUL!

By Courtney Ogilvie



Fate, in its many wonderful forms, as life teaches us regularly, has a way of playing tricks on people, predictably! And for me, this was absolute during our recent trip to Southern Ontario and the Maritimes. What has drawn me to these places are the deep inner stirrings that once took me through the Forests and onto the Mighty Rivers of that Heralded region of Canada. Of course, seeking to Once again encounter the Mighty Salmo Salar, the elusive Atlantic salmon, a perhaps nasty word to many here in the West considering the controversy manipulated and focused on the Sea Fish Farming. However, that comparison is totally natural for we seekers of "Mykiss", our beloved Wild Native Steelhead, here in BC and throughout the entire Pacific Northwest Region. An overwhelming notion of comparison between the Two was always in the front of my thoughts yet the truth is speculative at best. What became most apparent as I prepared my gear for this venture was the total need of re-inventing my fly boxes and ridding them of any weighted flies of any type. The most obvious thing was the absence of Spun Deer Hair Bombers in all sizes. Soon rectified though after visiting "George's Fly Shop" in Quarryville on the Miramichi River, a true old time fly shop worth the visit! I am finding myself drifting off to those marvelous places of our existence where memories cause sensations to reap our every breath. Delightful, a place missed and a future in question! Time is playing on me as well, anxious to visit the waters of my past, waiting to hear

once again the sounds of an Atlantic Salmon rise to a Dry Fly. Only Fly Fishers can tell you that after relentless hours of casting a myriad of patterns, dry fly-wet fly, changing leaders lengths and weights, presentation techniques and whatever else we imagine might work, and so often we are rewarded with the realization that we had a wonderful day and Life is Good. And yet as fate will play it's part, we turn our backs away from the waters of our dreams only to be rewarded with the "slap" of a fish's tail or a mighty silver projectile openly teasing us on.

If ever you get a chance to visit the waterways of your youth it is indeed a journey worth taking. As a youngster I had fears that all fish were disappearing, resulting in my missing the opportunities to encounter my share of the large fish of legend. At the time all the fish I seemed to be catching were somewhat small presenting to me the notion that I may miss the boat. Miraculously, I soon discovered that the more remote one went the better chances of hooking into larger fish. And well, I guess, that assumption was correct for that time! Now, in 2007, the world is a much smaller place indeed, innocence of youth is replaced by realities of Economy! Everything globally is affected by the slightest shift in Ocean and Land Surface Temperature, Wind Patterns, Deforestation, Free Trade, Wealth of Nations and so much more. "Remote" now is as simple as a click of a Mouse or a Six-letter word in a dictionary describing basically what Once was. And so, with these thoughts in mind, in 1996, a singular mind set out to once again have a Wild Sea Run Cutthroat Trout population along the beaches near Nile Creek on Vancouver Islands East Coast. Rod Allen, about to retire from Alberta, recalled as a youngster the many great adventures catching the great fish off these same beaches, his dream was to have a fishy retirement. But he soon discovered the real truth about this wonderful area and the situation looked bleak at best.



Pink Salmon, it seems, after many meetings with DFO, Environment Ministries and concerned Biologists, was the key to having any chance to once again see a population of Cutthroat Trout back into this system. Biomass, Fertilization, Stream Stabilization, Sustainability and Dollars and Cents were the words ahead needing to be fully understood and dealt with. Thus the obvious; "this wasn't to be a One man show "; the need for a very serious, hard working and committed volunteer group was realized. The newly formed Nile Creek Enhancement Society (NCES) set out accordingly, enrolling every conceivable means and device at its disposal. Blackmail wasn't a word used but often needing to be understood, in a good way. Little did anyone at the time understand the importance of the road ahead to all user groups and other such volunteer based organizations, nor did anyone fully comprehend the context of the entire project. So, teaming up with the local fly fishing club (Mid-Island Castaways) was a good beginning, having shared interests and common goals were a start. This is a virgin approach, always before, much of the work was already in place or players secured and funding issues a simple elongated process. This is not a Government or politically motivated undertaking, this was a very aggressive imitative taken by very concerned taxpayers.



In 1997 a small Hatchery building was constructed by the Castaways and the Nile Creek members, the project was a concrete incubator structure consisting of water runways and

tanks where fertilized eggs were maintained until the fry hatched and released to the stream to continue their journeys. Rodent invasions (Mink) soon established the need for a roofed structure with secure walls. This was done the following year along with new channel designs and water intake pipes. Always present were the Logging interests waiting to pounce on Riparian areas, lax construction practices occurring during the building of the New Inland Island Highway, Upstream encounters with Work being done by BC Hydro and so many other things. What has become so abundantly clear is that the work is never done and their guard can never be let down. As an example of this singular effort, in 1997 there were no Pink Salmon in Nile Creek itself, by 2001 the count was stopped at 25,000 fish in the system. Unfortunately, consistency in returns is connected to Ocean Survival, Number of eggs available, Commercial Fisheries interception, and so many other things. This fact may come as a shock to many but not a single egg from a Pink Salmon in Nile creek is harvested! Every egg to date has come from a relationship formed with the various ministries and the Quinsam River Hatchery at Campbell River. A relationship was formed between the Quinsam Hatchery and NCES to have surplus eggs available in return for volunteer labor when stripping mature fish of their eggs. What has resulted from this marvelous undertaking is a complete system reversal, the entire grounds and property of the Nile Creek Facility is not unlike a truly wild, untouched remote ecosystem. As important to this project are the numbers of Wild Fish and Animal Species seen since its inception. Chum Salmon are spawning in the lower sections, the 2 Kilometers of side channels are teeming with wild Coho fry, Dolly Varden, a few Steelhead Smolts, and yes, Wild Cutthroat Trout are once again seen in the system. Their numbers are few and there are steps now being taken to even enhance their numbers. It is a truly amazing story that keeps on ticking, all from One Man's vision.

When I began to fish the beaches of this area it was rare indeed to see more than 5 or 6 other fly fishers. Since then, it is commonplace to see as many as 60 fishers within a mile of each side of Nile Creek's Mouth. Commonly we hear from the old farts that this is overcrowding and we shouldn't write about this but as we all know, if you don't use it you loose it! I say the numbers are encouraging; it is a real pleasure to watch all the users trying all their secret patterns or lures tempting these wonderful sport fish. This fishery now extends from Mid-July through Mid-November annually, what else can be said about results. For me, the most unreasonable issue to comprehend is the lack of respect we get from the commercial interception of our hard work. Commercial interests have done nothing to support this project yet continually are granted the license to rape this resource. In 2006 we were blindsided by our understanding DFO agencies in their efforts to license a gigantic Scallop Farm undertaking that would cover 9 kilometers of Beach front and involve Millions upon Millions of growing Scallops devouring the projected estimates of the Plankton Biomass found in the Bayne Sound and surrounding area. Another Scientific Governmental estimate! (Humphhhh) The first application was denied because Navigation Canada deemed it a hazard, so the resultant proposal saw the entire farm structure sunk below the surface, a worse undertaking for Salmon. The unknown reality is that Scallops devour every thing around them in the form of Plankton and Zooplankton. The known reality is that young Salmon, Trout and Steelhead once in Salt Water devour this same food source.

Reduced food sources mean reduced mature fish returns!

And of course there are always twists to every story, also in 2006 the NCES undertook a study into the feasibility to once again have Kelp beds off the beaches where they once thrived. Historically there were huge kelp beds all along the East Coast of Vancouver Island. The Government of the day granted Kelp harvest licenses during a period when there was an Urchin population explosion. Urchin feast on Kelp, Sea Otters feast on Urchin and Sea Otter populations were in decline from over-harvest and Human encroachment. A vicious circle you might say. Well, as things seem to work, one hand doesn't know what the other is doing. The members of NCES began to prepare for re-seeding of the areas once Kelp Bed locations, enrolling volunteers from biologists, scientists, fly clubs and so on. The government doing its thing in reverse. The first seeding have been done and results are expected very soon.. Apparently there is a very good chance these beds will return, Unless the Scallop farm somehow impedes this whole project. Optimism is in the forefront of this issue and if accomplished will be a first.

As we can all see from this great work the road in really a winding One that has many curves, twists and a few dead ends, yet it is one we have to support. I cannot imagine what the situation would be if these groups didn't step-up and lay new ground rules for success and battles. What I can tell you is that groups like the Nile Creek Enhancement Society deserve much more attention than they get. NCES is now out of the kind hands of Rod Allen and being Presidented by world-renowned painter and environmental steward Ken Kirkby who has been there from the start. As with all things change is a good, with such constant threat from all corners diligence is a strong must. This entire project has set a standard for other undertakings across our Province and throughout our country. In so doing the Nile Creek Enhancement Society has just been honored with the First ever Canadian Environmental Awards held in Montreal in Early June 2007.in Montreal. Not only do they get the recognition they deserve but received a cheque for \$5000.00; a drop in the bucket but always handy. Sponsors for this are the Canadian Geographic Magazine, Shell Canada, and of course Ottawa. I wonder if they know what they have done (Ottawa)? I have just got off the phone with One of the Members and he tells me that the Kelp Beds have taken, word has really gotten out and there are inquiries from other countries to learn about re-introducing Kelp in their own back yards. The nurseries of the Ocean! Well done indeed; hats off to all the hard work and dedication! And, to think, it all comes down to dropping a fly in front of a fish...WONDERFUL!

Nile Creek Pictures by Courtney Ogilvie

Steelhead Flies

John Shewey

Frank Amato Publications

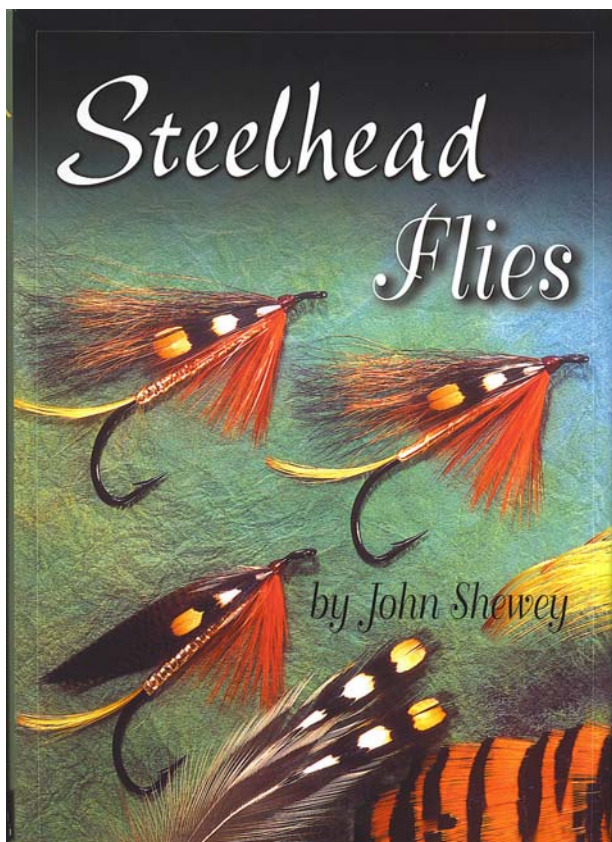
Portland, Oregon

2006, 216 pp.

Spiral Bound Hardcover \$49.95 US

Hardcover \$49.95 US

Limited Edition with fly tied by author \$135 US



This is a fly-tying book interspersed with pictures of steelhead and macro photography of many steelhead flies. and another Shewey colourful show piece. But unlike his historic book on *Spey Flies & Dee Flies* (2002), also published by Frank Amato, this is a book of few words with lots of pictures and a testimonial to the creative minds of some Pacific Northwest steelhead fly-fishing tiers. The book's 9" x 12," all-colour format is pleasing to the eye and the long pages enhance Shewey's photographic talents which in turn compliment his and other contributors' fly-tying skills. Shewey provides step by step instructions on how to dress the many variations in steelhead flies and in the last chapter called "A Gallery of Dressings," along with a colour pictures, he gives the recipe for nearly 200 steelhead flies.

Shewey dressed many of the flies himself but he does include a number of flies from a select few Oregon, Washington and British Columbia fly tiers. For those seeking a British Columbia connection, the book is interspersed with a selection of steelhead flies originated by General Noel Money, Tommy Brayshaw, Roderick Haig-Brown and Art Lingren. All of the sample British Columbia flies were dressed by yours truly, this books reviewer.

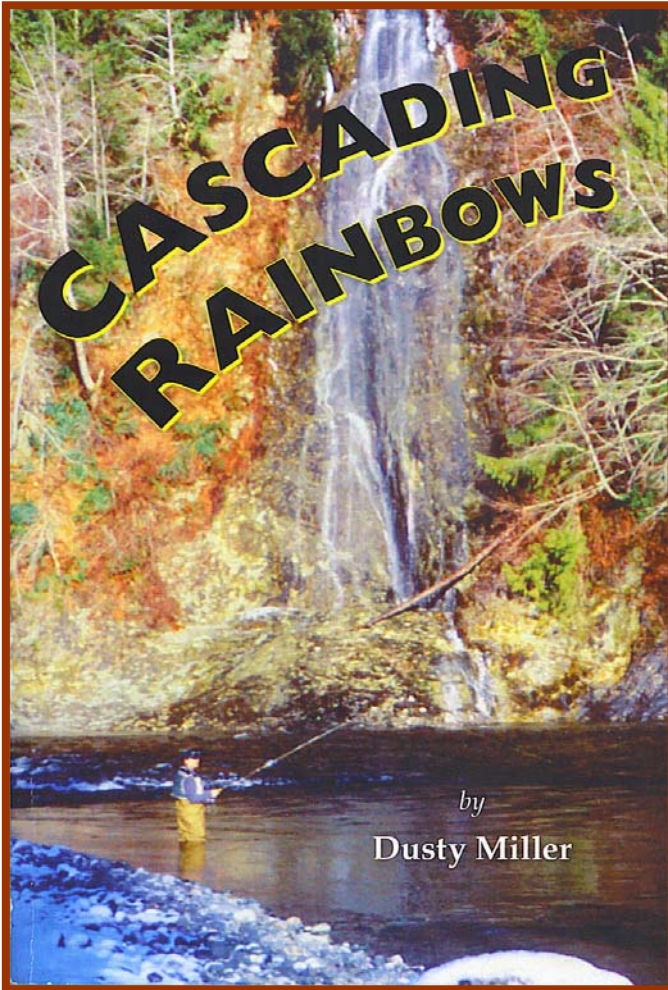
As Alec Jackson says in this Foreword, "Although John doesn't say it, it is obvious he believes fish as magnificent as steelhead should be fished with beautiful flies and great respect." Shewey doesn't need to say it as this book is a testimonial to Jackson's statement and a must book for the steelhead fly-fishing fly tier.

Reviewed by Art Lingren

Cascading Rainbows

By Dusty Miller

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Dusty Miller is the nom de plume of Rory Glennie, a long-time, Vancouver Island, fly fisherman, who has spent much of that time working as a fly fishing guide and served a president of the Steelhead Society of BC back in the 1980s.

Over many years working as a guide Rory has met the full spectrum of fly fishers, most who are pleasant people but some of those people encounters provided Rory with ever lasting memories. The background for most of the stories are in BC and on Vancouver Island's west coast when Rory was a saltwater salmon fly fishing guide but Rory did includes some stories from his experiences in Costa Rica.

This is a collection of vignettes based on Dusty Miller's guiding career and is not a where-to, how-to book. Rory writes with wit and humor and I enjoyed reading the book. Although Rory does include

serious messages about conservation, getting along and ethics, I often found myself pausing and contemplating as thought or stopping to reflect on a humorous passage and I highly recommend this book for those fly fishers who want something light to read and enjoy a laugh.

Reviewed by Art Lingren

A little bit of line care

So we have bought a new fly line, now what will we do with it. First we should determine how much backing we will need to go with the size of line we have.

Take the new line and wind it on the reel, lightly attach the selected backing to the line and wind it on up to 1/8" from the top of the spool, this will allow a little room for different thickness of leaders to be used.

Now remove the backing and the fly line and attach the backing to the spool with an arbor knot and wind the backing on the reel nice and neat, then attach the fly line to the backing with a needle nail knot, make sure you attach the proper end of the fly line to the backing.

Line manufactures tell us that all lines have a twist in them when they are made, now is the time to start getting rid of "twist".

Take the fly line and pull it through your thumb and for finger the whole length of the line, you may have to do this up to 10 times to remove all the twist. Stretching will not remove "twist. Now we can finish winding the line on the reel.

Don't forget to check your older lines for twist.

We put some twist back in a line when we cast but do not use all the line we have pulled off the reel. If we get twist while fishing moving water, remove the leader and let the line out in the current and give it the finger treatment, we can do the same thing on a lake by laying the line out behind the boat or tube. If we have coils in the line from being stored on the reel we can gently pull these out, tie the line to something solid or get your partner to hold the end of the line and give it a gentle stretch. Do not jerk the line.

Keep your lines clean, algae tends to attach itself to a line and it requires the line to be cleaned regularly if you want it to shoot properly, an all day fish might require your line to be wiped a few times.

When fishing is over give your line a wipe with a damp rag and some none detergent soap, and apply the appropriate dressing, and don't forget to give the line the finger treatment.

If we are fishing in the salt I like to remove the line and backing and give them both a wash with the hose, dry the line and apply the dressing. Don't forget to wash and lube the reel after a day in the salt.

A new line is like a pair of new shoes; it has to be broken in.

By Bodkin

Summary of BCFFF Annual General Meeting May 26 and 27th, 2007 Ron Schiefke-Secretary, BCFFF

The AGM this year had some highs and lows as I suppose all such meetings have. The lows were the poor turnouts for both the AGM (23 members) and the banquet/auction (71 people). The trade show didn't really work because of low attendance and scheduling. On the other hand, the three guest speakers, Todd Scharf, Tom Johanneson and Dr. Marvin Rosenau were great and their presentations were well attended.

The AGM itself flowed really well and the business was completed very efficiently. We welcome new Directors, Stewart Brady and Courtney Ogilvie .At the present time, We have no 2nd Vice President. The 50-minute presentation “ Protecting an International Watershed “ by the Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission was well done and well received. Despite the low turnout, everything to do with the dinner/auction was great. The meal was good and the auction items were fantastic. The tour of and lunch at the Fraser Valley Hatchery on Sunday was well attended and extremely educational and worthwhile.

Our new President, Pat Micek, appears to me to be an energetic man who wants to improve our Federation. He really wants to improve two way communications between the clubs and the Board. He will be working to develop plans to link clubs to the operations of the BCFFF. His main aim is to develop more membership in our organization.

If anyone has any comments or ways to improve the BCFFF please call or Email me. We need to have a larger voice for our resource.

BCFFF's AGM 2007

This years BCFFF AGM was hosted by the Osprey Flyfishers of BC, it was a huge success thanks to the members and wives of the Ospreys for there long hours of work and planning.

The Ospreys would like to thank Larry Haines (Totem) for looking after the finances and Peter Caverhill who received and cataloged all donations. Peter also planned and organized the Sunday activities at the FVTH (Fraser Valley Trout Hatchery) the kids Big and small enjoyed this day. For all of those that attended the Dinner / Auction and Sunday outing, we hope you enjoyed yourself and thanks for supporting this worthy cause. Some of the many highlights were captured by camera (Thanks to Rod Johnston, Peter Chatt, Ospreys)





Hi, Terry,

This was my first BCFFF meeting - being the new kid on the block, and a budding Wannabe fly fisher since less than a year.

However, I have attended many conferences and organized a fair number. From this perspective I want to express my profound appreciation for the meeting you pulled off.

The organization was flawless, the location, meals program and everything exceeded my expectations. I particularly enjoyed the three presentations on Saturday afternoon, which I found not only very enlightening, but also very entertaining and nonetheless hanging well together under the thoughtfully chosen theme for the meeting. Congratulations and thanks for everything!

I also want to mention that the auction was riveting for me. What incredible treasures were auctioned off. Too bad I had already spent a bundle to acquire a basic stock of

equipment!

Unfortunately family matters called me away on Sunday so I was unable to participate in the excursion to Abbotsford.

Anyway, I hope you get many congratulatory notes. You certainly deserve them!

Jochen

Jochen R. Moehr

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I hope that everyone feels the same way that Jochen felt, this makes it worth the effort that was put in, Thank You.

Congratulations to Don McDermid, first prize winner of the raffle, Pitt River Lodge cabin package and to Paul Inscho winner of the Sage rod, Islander reel and Outbound Rio line.