



The Evening

Hatch

The Newsletter of the Michigan Fly Fishing Club

September 2020

Fishing The Missouri River

By Sybil Hunter

September ninth the MFFC welcomed Shelly Ehmer of Dirty Girls Guides as our first Zoom speaker. Her topic was The History & Fishing Of The Missoula River. She was fresh off the river and sliding into home.

“It’s a lot of water with lots of history,” said Ehmer. At 2340.7 miles in length, it is the longest river in North America. The Jefferson is a tributary of the Missouri, the Missouri itself joins the Mississippi which in turn flows into the Gulf Of Mexico. The Red Rock, Beaverhead, and Jefferson Rivers start in the same place. Where the river flow connects with the Gulf of Mexico has the elevation of 404 feet. “It’s no wonder it flows north,” said Ehmer.

For centuries, life has depended on the Missouri and its tributaries, which span seven states, for food and transportation. Over 20,000 immigrants have traveled it as it was one of the main routes for western expansion. Settlers not traveling by covered wagon, used Keelboats to traverse the Missouri River. Poles were used to move these 80 foot by 15 foot wooden boats. “I can’t even imagine (moving them),” said Ehmer. “I’ve pulled the oars in the mud (in a modern boat). At least they weren’t in



covered wagons anymore.”

Ehmer presented a brief, entertaining history of the oldest settlement in Montana, Fort Benton (est. 1846); the first federal highway in the Northwest, Mullan Road (construction started in 1859); the world’s innermost port where most North American freight was loaded onto steamboats at Fort Benton; and the unsolved drowning of Union Army Civil War hero, Governor Meagher (1823).

“The Brown Trout are not native,” said Ehmer. “They started showing up in 1883.” Rainbow Trout were stocked with Brown Trout intermittently until 1973. The Trout fishery is now sustained by wild reproduction. “The state record is 29 lbs. Normal fish range around 16, 18, 20. Although Rainbows are not natural here, Montana does have a subspecies called Redband Rainbow.

Continued on page 2

MFFC Calendar



October 7, 2020

Speaker: Sara Thomas, DNR

Topic: Lake Erie, Invasive Species, Habitat Restoration

Zoom 7:30 p.m. -Watch email for link

October 21, 2020

Activity Meeting

Topic: TBD

Zoom 7:30 p.m. -Watch email for link

November 4, 2020

Speaker: Nicole Watson - tentative

Topic: Arctic Grayling Initiative

Zoom 7:30 p.m. -Watch email for link

November 18, 2020

Activity Meeting

Topic: TBD

Zoom 7:30 p.m. -Watch email for link



Continued from page 1

They were dolphining. They just jump out of the water and spit your fly out at you! They put on spectacular shows! It is great!”

“Sixty percent of the Missouri Trout spawn in the main river, *not* the tributaries,” said Ehmer. Rainbow Trout spawn in the spring. Brown Trout spawn in the fall; Ehmer indicated the Browns are already in the Redds, which seems early compared to past years.

“STAY OFF THE REDDS!” Said Ehmer. The only way to guarantee fish in the river, is to let them spawn safely. “There are Redds, big groups of them, some are as big as my boat. You see them by the sides but they are out in the flats just as much. If you are a guide, you know where the Redds are.” Ehmer detailed how to identify the Redds.

Ehmer typically floats eight to ten miles a day. There are different routes for different fly preferences. “Once another guide came across my bow, I had guys on my boat. You can’t let them push you around,” said Ehmer. “I told them I would sink their boat later.”

She lives in Craig, but works out of Wolf Creek. “There are three fly shops, two bars and that’s it,” said Ehmer. “No church. We are all sinners here, but there is Shotgun Annie’s (Saloon!)” The tavern and bar serves highly recommended delish food and drinks.

The Missouri River Hatch Chart and Missouri River Access Points Map are included elsewhere in this issue, courtesy of Ehmer.

Holter Dam (built from 1908-1918) on the Missouri is a hydroelectric straight gravity dam. Prior to 1974, when dam operators agreed to stabilize river flows, waters were extremely flashy. “They would strand guys when the dam opened up. It would range 1000 cubic feet per

second in one day,” said Ehmer. After stabilization, “It would be great if the fish could move up the river, but after they put this in, our electricity was cheap,” pointing out, “The Land of the Giants is above the dam.” Flow stabilization, along with no longer stocking, allowed wild Trout to thrive with more consistent water temperatures and without competition.

Compared to the Madison River, “The Missouri is easier on boats, easier on anglers, and the fish are just insane here,” said Ehmer. “Water, flows, bugs...they all work together. Even the smaller fish, they put up a good fight! I’ll take ‘em!”

Ehmer then shared slides of her favorite flies for each of the different stretches of the river, among them the Dirty Girl’s Panty Dropper. “All you do is change your depth, change your weight and it catches fish.” Easy peasy.

“If I can access the river in the winter, I will fish. I even offer a winter rate,” said Ehmer. She showed a picture of herself launching the boat over a huge snowbank.

This was followed by a buddy’s boat pictured stuck in the ice (nobody knows how *that* happened), tales of exploded salad, boat ranch and more.... “You’ve gotta live, you gotta have fun!”

Travelers can fly in to Helena or Great Lake Falls airports, each about 45 miles away. There is lodging available through the local fly shops. If you want more of Shelly’s secrets, you’ll have to contact her yourself. She proved herself to be a veritable cornucopia of knowledge about flows, equipment, access points, flies, hatches, history and (more than I could ever print) all things fly fishing on the Missouri River (She can even hook you up with your own personal stream side chef!) Contact her at 406-438-7419, fishing@shelly.pro, and find her [@shellyehmerflyfishing](https://www.facebook.com/shellyehmerflyfishing) on Facebook and directly at DirtyGirlGuides.com.



Ehmer confirmed the Hardy Creek bridge, a few more miles north of the Dearborn, down close to Prewett Creek was featured in the movie “The Untouchables.”





MFFFC Business

Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Board Meeting May 20, 2020

Rollcall

Present: B. Strachan, S. Hunter, K. Oehring; J. Kieth, J. Bada, D. Mayes, F. Sejalon, B. Green, D. Nowicki
Absent: B. Niemi
Guests: K. Lipp; S. Selinger; J. Strachan; C. Summers

Approval of Minutes - Approved
Approval of Agenda - Approved

Officer's Reports

President - Strachan

2020-2021 Board Of Directors Officer Installation
Future Meetings: No commitment by Claranceville yet, planning remote Zoom meetings; Proposing a "host" to manage the meetings; dry run June 2020. No meeting schedule at this time.
Inclusion Policy. Board recommended proposed policy.

Raffle License Status: Currently no planned raffles for summer meetings; new BoD names provided to State Gaming Commission; new license for 2021 MFFC Banquet; three available licenses for meeting dates; money refunded by State due to postponed meetings.

Vice President - Hunter

50th Anniversary Pin Fan Out Proposal - Operation Pin Drop. Sybil will coordinate.

Treasurer - Oehring

Treasurer's report accepted as submitted.

Corresponding Secretary - Keith

PayPal presentation: discussed fees, exceptions, comparisons, set up for donations; non-profit requirements presented; button on website proposed; Club treasurer's email to be used; would allow vendors to use Pay Pal for Expo. Board authorized proposal.

July Club meeting scheduled at VisTaTek questionable; rescheduled available if before 6/10/20.

Membership - Niemi

(Absent)

Events & Outings

2021 Expo: status & outlook; A.L. Bulszewicz working on new banquet facility.

2020 WawaSum Outing: July 15-18; \$160 for 3 nights lodging + breakfast; will follow State guidelines for Covid-19

New Business

2019-2020 Howard Gellar Award: Kathy Oehring, winner, announced via Constant Contact

Zoom Disussion: Plan pricing, contract requirements & package details presented; Barry to use his account for a trial run; Board agreed to use Zoom for summer meetings.

Jeff McGowan Covid Fly Tying Videos: Jeff recorded a suite of fly tying videos for tyers stuck at home; no promotional items brought up for non-club activities.

Old Business

Noting at this time.

Visitor Comments: none

Adjournment: 8:53 p.m.

Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Board Meeting June 3, 2020

Rollcall

Present: B. Strachan; K. Oehring; B. Niemi; J. Bada; D. Mayes; B. Green; D. Nowicki

Absent: S. Hunter; F. Sejalon

Guests: J. Fisher; K. Lipp; J. Strachan

Approval of Minutes - Not Done

Approval of Agenda - Approved

Officer's Reports

President - Strachan

Thorough discussion of Zoom capabilities and technical requirements

Vice President - Hunter

Operation Pin Drop: the first wave of pins to Grayling have been distributed. Volunteers have signed up to assist with delivery.

50th Anniversary Stickers: 2 are left; monetary accounting to be provided to K. Oehring soon.

Treasurer - Oehring

Treasurer's report accepted as submitted.

Corresponding Secretary - Vacant

Discussion of an Interim CS: Mike Matuszewski
To Do List Compiled: scheduling summer meetings, corresponding with VisTaTek by June 10; Bruce to contact VisTaTek regarding Covid protocols and options; email report of present venue requirements;
Benevity update - Expo website finished, Microsoft donation to MFFC received.

Continued on page 4



2019 - 2020 Officers

President:

Bruce Strachan
president@mffc.org

Vice President:

Sybil Hunter
sybilsvpemail@gmail.com

Interim Corresponding Secretary:

Mike Matuszewski
correspondence@mffc.org

Recording Secretary:

Jon Bada
jonbada@hotmail.com

Treasurer:

Kathy Oehring
treasurer@mffc.org

Membership:

Bob Niemi
membership@mffc.org

Immediate Past President:

David Nowicki
info@mffc.org

At-Large Directors:

Barry Green
greenbar1020@aol.com

David Mayes
dmp8906@gmail.com

Fred Sejalon
sejalon@comcast.net

Hatch Editor:

Sybil Hunter
evening.hatch.mffc@gmail.com

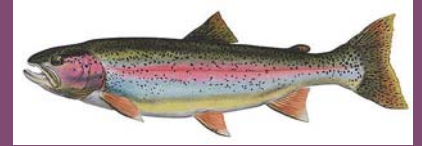
Webmaster:

Harry Briggs
habriggs@gmail.com



MFFFC Business

Continued



Membership - Niemi

Nothing at this time.

Events & Outings

2020 Club Picnic: John Erikson to contact Multi-Lakes regarding Covid requirements; Strachan to follow up; Bada requested foam sanitizers and hotter to wash hands. Constant Contact will be used to notify members.

2020 WaWaSum Outing: Members can leave this outing early Saturday morning in order to attend Club Picnic; waiting to hear back from WawaSum manager regarding lodging regulations; dining room will not be used; at the time of this meeting - restaurant and bars allow limited seating in the Grayling area.

New Business

None at this time.

Old Business

None at this time.

Visitor Comments: none

Adjourned

Meeting Minutes Michigan Fly Fishing Board Meeting July 28, 2020

Rollcall

Present: B. Strachan; K. Oehring; M. Matuszewski; J. Bada; D. Mayes; F. Sejalon; B. Green; D. Nowicki
Absent: S. Hunter; B. Niemi
Guests: None

Approval of Minutes - Not done

Approval of Agenda - Approved with amendments

Officer's Reports

President - Strachan

Alternate Fall Venues requested as contingency for Clarenceville meetings; VFW in Redford, MI being investigated as a future site; 50 person limitation at this time; VFW costs \$100 per meeting, BoD meetings will remain Zoom at this time; trial run slated for August; Lipp to notify board of existing technology; David Gibson connected us with this venue's leadership.

Vice President - Hunter

Not present.

Treasurer - Oehring

Nothing to discuss.

Corresponding Secretary - Matuszewski

Nothing at this time.

Membership - Niemi

Current: 379 active paid members; to save costs no membership cards this year; initial notice to be mailed to members via USPS.

Events & Outings

Nothing at this time.

New Business

MUCC Representative: BOD approved Tom Doyle as the MFFC Representative

Website: Contact for web designer, Craig Worth, provided

Storage Locker: Clear out is unknown. Strachan, Green and Lipp to visit Clarenceville Middle School to retrieve equipment.

Old Business

PayPal Set Up: For Expo vendor payment, eCommerce not set up, need technology, Strachan to contact Haley Vingsness for assistance; for membership payment David Mayes set up; Bada will make a trial donation.

Visitor Comments: none

Adjournment: 8:00 p.m.

A Note Of

Special Recognition

A note of special recognition goes out to The Michigan Fly Fishing Club's Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) voting representative Tom Doyle and to the MFFC's Trout Unlimited (TU) voting representative Francis Gosiewski!

Thank you for representing the MFFC in all things conservation!

Michigan Fly Fishing Club Meeting Schedule 2020 - 2021

MFFC Meeting Dates

9/9/20 Speaker: Shelly Ehmer, fishing the Missouri River

9/16/20 Board Meeting

9/23/20 Activity Meeting: Fly Tying

10/7/20 Speaker: Sara Thomas, DNR Update

10/14/20 Board Meeting

10/21/20 Activity Meeting: Fly Tying

11/4/20 Speaker: Nicole Watson, Arctic Grayling Initiative

11/11/20 Board Meeting

11/18/20 Activity Meeting: Fly Tying

12/9/20 Speaker: Tentatively Chuck Hawking

12/16/20 Board Meeting

12/23/20 Possible Garage Sale

1/13/21 Speaker Meeting

1/20/21 Board Meeting

1/27/21 Activity Meeting

2/10/21 Speaker Meeting

2/17/21 Board Meeting

2/24/21 Activity Meeting

3/3/21 Activity Meeting

3/10/21 Board Meeting

3/13-3/14/21 Expo @ MCC

3/17/21 Speaker Meeting

4/7/20 Speaker + Elections

4/14/21 Board Meeting

4/21/21 Activity Meeting

5/5/21 Activity Meeting

5/12/21 Board Meeting

5/19/21 Banquet @ Italian American Center

6/9/21 Speaker @ VisTaTek Center

7/14/21 Speaker @ VisTaTek Center

8/25/21 Speaker @ VisTaTek Center





Conservation Corner

Peter Albertson's

Conservation Corner

Participant Listing

Peter Albertson
Tom Doyle
Kevin Lowell
Scott Martin
Jim Keith
Larry Webb
Eric Schuldt
Norm Tabaka
Lynn Lower



Action Topics Initiated:

- 2020.0122a: MI PFAs
- 2020.0122b: Lake St. Clair Water Quality
- 2020 0122c: MI Acqua Culture
- 2020 0219a: Boardman River Trout Passage at Travece City-The Brook Trout Coalition
- 2020 0219b: Belleville River Fish Kill
- 2020 0730a: Johnson Creek Landfill Discharge

Please note that we all have many items of greater importance to us all during this most difficult time for us as individuals, our families, and our Nation. A few up dates for your use:

- A. **Great Lakes PFAS Summit, A virtual week long event, October 26-30, #GLPFASummit.** Please look up information if you are interested. Cost is \$50. Agenda available shortly.
- B. **MUCC: Be aware this election will have on it the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund- funding for additional MNRTF projects.** See: MIWaterWildlifeParks.com for more information.
- C. **Be aware of Huron River Watershed Council's work:** <https://hrwc.org/>, per S. Vanerdoof.
- D. **Senator Stabenow has prepared a report titled: The Climate Crisis In Michigan, easily found on line if interested.**
- E. **Johnson Creek: L. Lower has provided information regarding the group addressing the creek issues-** <https://conservancyinitiative.org/>
- F. **Line 6B Up-dates: Line 6B Citizens' Blog. Our Line 5 Action Item.**

Prepared by: Peter Albertson

Contact Information: Cell Phone 248-921-9103

Email palbertsonsp@icloud.com

First Edition:

2020 0122 Latest Edition: 2020 0807



Fly Fishing Reports

Members On The Fly

Fishing Reports



Here are a few pics of some of the biggest fish I caught on the AuSable the past month or so. (Greg also included a big walking stick!) I have only been using 2 flies all year. I have been using a 2 fly rig with a 2mm tippet ring. My lead fly is an Orange Partridge and the dropper is a Greenwell Spider. They have worked well for me all year. The least amount of fish I have caught on any day this year was 9, the most was 28. All fish were caught on the North Branch. All of the Brook Trout except one were caught at Dam 4. The other Brook Trout and the Brown was caught at Sheep Pasture. I did catch some other nice Brook Trout at Sheep Pasture, but decided not to take pictures. Greg Stinogel



Dan (Finstad) and I on the Manistee with Ed McCoy - Spencer VanderHoof



Don Oehring



Fly Fishing Reports

Members On The Fly

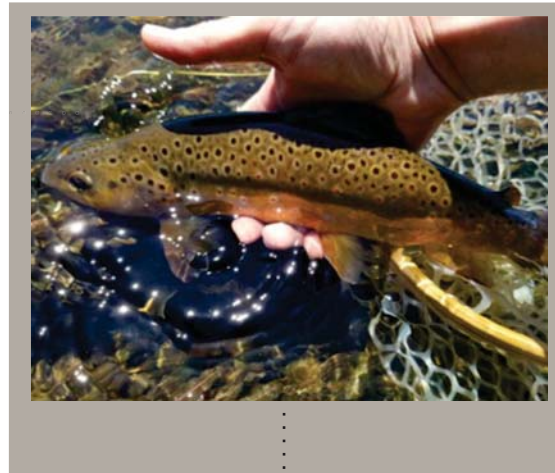
Fishing Reports

“It’s pretty cool. I didn’t know when I moved here, but there are a lot of trout streams within a couple hours. Like almost every creek,” said Club member Corey Thelan of Wisconsin fishing. “They’re like mini versions of the western spring creeks. Here are a few fish from the last six weeks or so. The seem to be very colorful here.”

Corey said many streams pass through cow pastures. Never wear blue by the way, lest you be chased across a field and over a fence by a bull.

When he’s not working or fishing, he’s biking for fun. You know, like 50 miles. “Here is a pic of me and my friend Christian finishing our bike tour and one from bike fishing in downtown Madison.”

Corey Thelan, a professional designer, designed MFFC’s 50th Anniversary Sticker and the 50th Anniversary momento pin.





August Fly Of The Month

Hopping Into August

Morrish Hopper

By Todd Schotts

For this month's fly we will be going back to the land of terrestrials with an amazing and very effective hopper pattern. This pattern is a staple, along with a few others in my terrestrial fly box for sure. This month's fly is the "Morrish Hopper," by Ken Morrish.

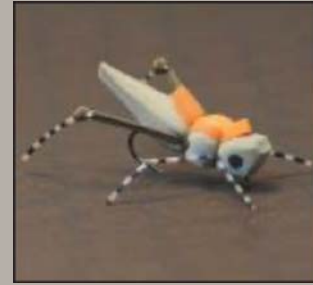
The river report on Ken Morrish is he is a fourth generation's fly fisher. He has guided all around Alaska, Oregon, and California. Besides guiding he has taught the sport of fly fishing/tying, managed various fly shops, and has a very amazing list of his own designs with Umpqua Feather Merchants. Some of his patterns consist of: Morrish Mouse, Danny Boy, Morrish Dragon, and Tequila Popper, just to name a few of the 29 or so of the different patterns he has with Umpqua.

Out of all the various insects that are classified as terrestrials, there are four that are the most effective. The fish take these more aggressively: hoppers, beetles, ants, and moths. One thing nice about hoppers you are able to fish these patterns later in the fall, as they are the only terrestrial that can handle cold weather. Just for reference, terrestrials are defined as land born insects such as ants, spiders, inch worms, termites, snails, beetles, and grasshoppers just to name a few (as opposed to the water-born insects such as mayflies, midge's and caddis's). These morsels called terrestrials offer a great source of protein for the water inhabitants. The pattern for this month is actually considered by many anglers (especially out west) to be one of the most effective hopper pattern in existence. With the multi layers of foam body material this fly can handle rougher waters than most other hopper patterns.

When tying this fly pattern, do some prep work to get things ready. Cut the body material out and knot the legs. Do these two things the night before. For the body, glue a total of 6mm of foam glued together to cut or shape the body out of. Glue three sheets of 2mm, or two sheets of 3mm together. I prefer three sheets of 2mm myself, with two top colors the same, plus a contrasting bottom layer. The favorite colors to use are tan over pink or tan over yellow. Once dry, shape the body using scissors, or use a Chernobyl body ant cutter, then trim down from there. If you want, River Road Creations has Morrish Hopper body cutters for purchase. (They also have Chernobyl Cutters.) Then prep the legs. Use two strands for the back legs on the front half, then strand behind the knot. When tying these in knots, it is black or brown in front for the two strands and a striped one strand behind the knot. Once tied, make sure you glue the knot to secure the connection. With the prep done, start tying the Morrish Hopper. Take the foam body and make a slit in the center of the underbody. Using Super Glue or Zap-A-Gap, secure the body to the hook.

Once you do the two wraps to secure the body, place your one wrap before the hook point, and the other wrap about hook gap back from the front of the hook. Next make sure your thread is back at the hook point. You will want the knot of the leg material at the back of the body of the fly. Trim off the excess. For the front legs, do the same with the striped material, but one strand on each side tied in at the front, tie in back from the front of the hook. Take the back leg of the front material after tied in and tie an overhand knot to give it some detail, then trim the front part shorter than the back. The next step is tying in the indicator so you will be able to see your fly while fishing. The color of the indicator is actually really important if you want to see it. The best color to the worst for visibility is: pink, orange, red, then yellow. The color is reflects with the light from your surroundings. Unfortunately white bleaches out way too fast to be effective. I have used pink for post on various dry flies and it has

Morrish Hopper



HOOK: TMC 5212 Sizes 6 – 12

THREAD: Tan 70 Denier or 8/0

BODY: 6mm of two sheets of 2mm Tan Foam & 1 2mm of yellow or pink

LEGS BACK: Black, brown, or tan 2 strands of medium round rubber legs, 1 strand of barred medium

LEGS FRONT: 1 strand barred medium

INDICATOR: Pink, orange, red, or yellow, 2mm craft foam

made no difference to the fish. The big difference for me is the fly is very visible giving myself at a big advantage. After you get the head all trimmed up, the last step is taking a permanent marker to put a dot for an eye on both sides of the head. If you want more information on this pattern or more detail on how this is tied, go to YouTube and type in Morrish Hopper. There are some great videos out there for sure.

When fishing this pattern, like any hopper pattern best way is to plop it off the shore line cast right up next to the bank. Always check the banks before you enter the waters, just to see what type of hoppers (color) or other terrestrials you maybe competing with.

So if you want to hop into the dog daze of summer, get those bobbins slinging and get those Morrish Hoppers, hopping off your vises!! Until next month, hopefully many tight lines, keep those flies snazzy, and make sure to be careful out there.



September Fly Of The Month

Nature Is Savage

Bass Bully

By Todd Schotts

We are not talking about President Theodore Roosevelt's famous saying, but the terminology someone becoming aggressive or intimidating to a lesser or weaker individual. We are going to take it further, and ask is there "Bullying" in the lakes and rivers? Yes there is in all of the various watersheds we fish. One major "Bully" is the Bass (Largemouth or Smallmouth); they are aggressive and intimidating to almost everyone in the watersheds. You could say they push their agenda like the way Americans have lately in this crazy world we live in. Have you ever witnessed a Bass chasing smaller fish in the water system? You know this happens when the lily pads or reeds come alive as the smaller fish scatter from their aggressive larger bullying pursuer. The creators of this month's fly, who probably figured when naming it - why not torture the tormentor, are Terry and Roxanne Wilson. The pattern is the "Bass Bully - Smallmouth version."

Creators of this fly say the river report on them is totally amazing. The Wilsons reside in Bolivar, MO and are both hardcore warm water fly anglers, writers, and very effective creative, fly designers. They authored several books on fly fishing for Bluegill, Bass, and Crappie like "Bluegill Fly Fishing & Flies," "Largemouth Bass Fly Fishing: Beyond the Basics," and "Smallmouth Bass Fly Fishing: A Practical Guide," just to name a few. They wrote over 200 articles over 20+ years, on warm water species, appearing in national and regional

magazines. They are regular contributors to *The Flyfisher* and staff writers for *Outdoor Guide* and *Driftwood Outdoors*.

There are two versions of this fly. The first Bass Bully was intended for Largemouth Bass with a twisty tail. Rabbit Zonker, or Craft Fur creates the tail for the Smallmouth version (the one we are going to discuss). Either version works for either species of Bass. The original version was tied on a jig hook with 1/36 or 1/60 barbell eyes to create a "drop fly" pattern. This was to create fly movement like that of the spin casting "Pig & Jig." The drop fly method is where a short cast is made over deep structure and the rod tip is pumped slowly up and down. If you tie this on a "Bendback" Hook, and use un-weighted doll eyes, you will have a surface fly that can be tossed on top of heavy cover.

This fly represents many different foods Bass love to eat, like lizards, crawfish, salamanders, hellgrammites, and sculpins to name a few.

When tying this pattern, it is actually a very easy tie, there are two major factors. First do not crowd the eye of the hook when tying the eyes on, and second, the tail length is very critical. To start this fly, first tie in is the eyes; make sure you are at least two hook eyes back from the front, and on top of the hook shank. If you want to secure your eyes with Super Glue, remember to rotate the vise over and glue the eyes from underneath to make sure you glue the eyes to the hook. If you glue on top of the eyes, you are actually gluing just the thread wraps to the eyes. Next is the weed guard if you decide to go that way. If so, make sure it is at least 25lb mono, but do not get too heavy or it will hinder your hooking ability. When tying this in, secure it to the hook shank and down the bend of the

Bass Bully



HOOK: TMC 8089, Mustad 37187, or Daiichi 2720/2722 (sizes 4 to 12)

THREAD: 6/0 or 140 Denier (color to match body tail and head)

TAIL: Zonker (rabbit or craft fur) color's mentioned above

BODY: Ice Chenille or Estaz Color to match tail

GILLS: Red Dubbing

LEGS: Medium color to match tail - 2, 3, or 4 strands each side

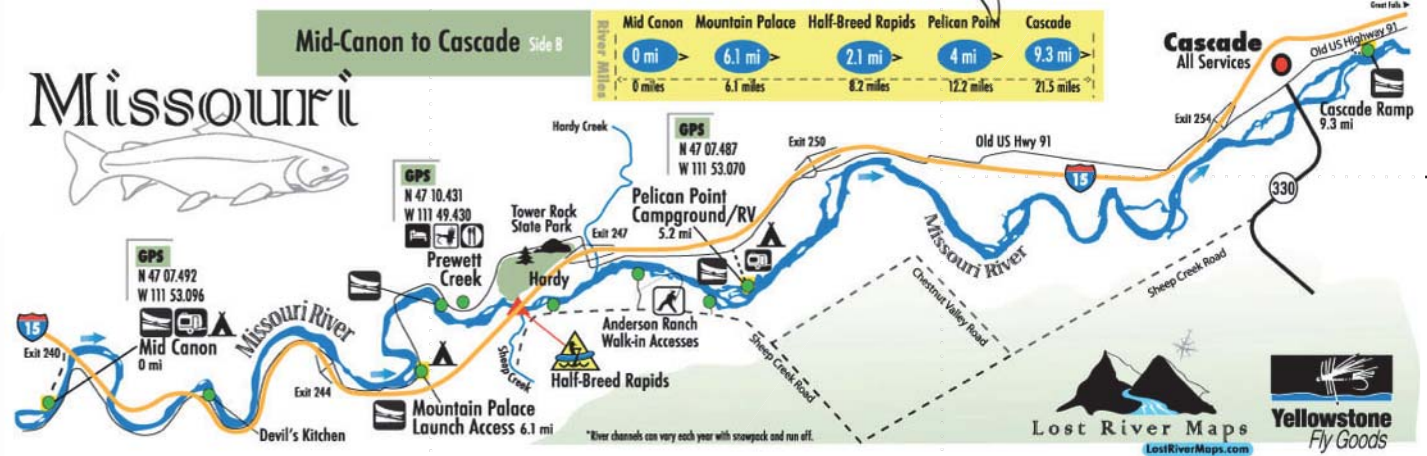
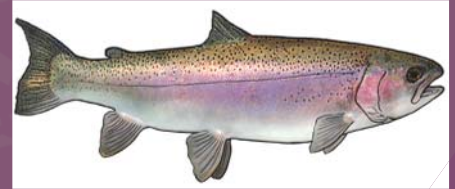
EYES: Red Lead Barbell (sizes 4-8 medium) (sizes 10 & 12 extra small)

HEAD: Ice Dub in dubbing loop (1" or 1.5" wide) or brush 1" or 1.5" (color to match tail)

hook; let it hang out the back to finish up at the end of the tie. Now tie in the tail material, which is the most important feature of this fly as it gives this fly movement and life like features. For this Smallmouth Version, use Rabbit Zonker or cut zonker strips from craft fur. The length must be precise, if it is too long there will be no takers and missed hook ups. The tail should be the length of the hook shank plus 1/8". Measurement the hide, not the fur. Tie in the tail inverted so the hair faces downward, as this fly will be riding hook point up. The next step is tying in the Estaz or chenille for the body. Make this a
Continued on next page



M F F C



Continued from prior page
 ball and only come down the hook shank about 5/8 way toward the eye. Then take some red dubbing and dub up to behind the eyes, leaving a space to tie in the rubber legs. Tie in the legs, so they extend out about half way into the tail material and will flair out from the body. The original pattern used ram or sheep wool to match the tail material for the head. With the smallmouth version we are going to use laser dub and a dubbing loop. If you can find a 1" dubbing brush in the same color as the tail material using that. The best way to cover the head and eyes is two wraps behind the eyes, wrap diagonal

across the eyes one way and then diagonal the other way, then wrap in front. Pull back the material, make a few thread wraps, tie off, and glue. Chartreuse, orange, olive, rust, or black would be the most effective colors. Once you have tied these up, the next step is fishing these bullies. This fly should be fished along edges of shoals and boulders, and cast into seams of converging currents. Don't forget to fish in deep slow pools as a vertical drop fly. I would recommend using a 6 weight or heavier fly rod, as it will make it easier to cast. The creators suggest an intermediate fly line, but do not rule out sink tip or full sinking line. Terry suggests allowing the fly to settle on

the bottom, and then point the rod tip directly at the fly, remove the slack in the line, then lift the rod tip about 4 to 6 inches, drop the rod tip back to its original position, and keep repeating. So if you want to become the bully of the watershed for Bass, then get your bobbins slinging for some summer fun. Until next month, many tight lines and may your flies be snazzy.





Michigan Fly Fishing Club

Club Events

2021 MFFC

White River Arkansas Trip

Attention MFFC Fly Fishers! For 2021, The Michigan Fly Fishing Club will again host a 4 night, 3 day guided fly fishing trip to the famed White River in the Ozark Mountains of Arkansas. The trip is MFFC sanctioned in conjunction with guide Kelly Neuman and his crew from Streamside Custom Rod & Guide Service - www.arkansasstreamside.com.

The regular cost for 4 nights and 3 days of guided drift boat fly fishing is \$1500, but for us, he has reduced the per person cost to \$1200. This also will include lodging at the White River Trout Lodge on the banks of the White River, 3 meals (breakfast, lunch & dinner) per day, rods, flies and other essential equipment.

The cost for transportation to and from the lodge in Cotter, Arkansas will be our own responsibility. As an example, last year we rented a Ford Transit van, plus had another member drive his vehicle. Our final cost for transportation and gas was less than \$100 per person.

At this time, our trip date is set for late February and limited to 10 fly fishers. Two anglers per boat.

We arrive Monday, Feb 22, have guided float trips Feb 23, 24, 25 and depart the morning of Friday, Feb 26.

The total cost for the trip is broken into 3 payments, each with its own deadline.

The \$200 Deposit is due on or before November 11, 2020 to reserve your spot. \$400 is due December 9, 2020, totaling half down. \$600 due upon arrival in Arkansas with group.

Payments can be made by cash or check to me, or by credit card to Streamside. If for some reason you are unable to be at one of the deadline meetings, you can mail a check made out to me at my home address.

To reserve your spot please feel free to telephone, email or see me at upcoming club meetings. Scott Freeburg 2856 Pinto Dr. Commerce Twp, MI. 48382, cell 248-505-3563, email sfree357@aol.com.

A Success!

MFFC Picnic 2020



MISSOURI RIVER MAJOR HATCHES

Insect	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Midge												
Baetis (BWO)												
Caddis												
PMD												
Trico												
Scuds												
Pseudos												
Terrestrials												



Michigan Fly Fishing Club
 PO BOX 530861
 Livonia, MI 48153