

# Flycasters

## Oregon's Northeast Corner



On September 11th at 7:00 pm in the Pringle Community Building, Mac Huff will be presenting "Fishing Wallowa County - Oregon's forgotten northeast corner" is a season-long overview of fishing opportunities in Wallowa County, which range from 9,000 foot elevation alpine lakes to desert-canyon rivers fishing for species ranging from brook trout, kokanee to rainbow trout, smallmouth bass and Pacific steelhead. Fishing is available year around in Wallowa County and streams are open 46 weeks a year. I've been guiding for more than 15 years, operated a fly shop and sporting good store for 13 years before going to guiding full time. I received my FFF CI certification in 1994 and began two-handed casting about 8 years ago, using and teaching Skagit-style casting.



Photos by  
Rod  
Bourdage

For those that were unable to attend our Upper Klamath Lake outing, here are a few of the things you missed.



There was a small showing at the Klamath outing. Many of those that attended caught some lovely fish like the one above. We had a good time fishing the waters of upper Klamath Lake and enjoyed a dinner or hamburgers, chocolate cake, and apple pie. To cap it off there was an enjoyable evening sitting around a campfire

## It's Harvest Time

By Rich Youngers

Fall is a great time to head over to the Oregon Coast and fly fish for one of the true treasures of Oregon, the Sea-Run Cutthroat aka; Sea trout, red-throat trout, or harvest trout. Hence, the title of my article.

If you are interested in the scientific name of this wonderful fish it is; *Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*, from the Greek roots *onkos* (hook), *rynchos* (nose), and *clarki* from Captain W. Clark of the Lewis and Clark expedition. Coastal Cutthroat range from Northern California to Prince Williams Sound in Alaska.



Oregon's coastal cutthroat trout are a greenish blue on its back and silvery on the sides. They are distinguished from other trout and salmon species by bright red or orange streaks located on the lower jaw, and the dense patterns of spots across the body and completely covering the

tail. Adult cutthroat average 10 -13 inches, and can reach 20 inches in length. They can sometimes reach up to 4 pounds.

The coastal cutthroat trout is unlike most of the other salmon species, because it may spawn more than once. Adults commonly enter streams during the fall and feed on the eggs from other salmon's spawn. Spawning can occur from late December through May, depending on water conditions. The female cutthroat can lay up to 4,000 eggs, which hatch in about 1 month. Young cutthroat can spend 1 to 9 years in fresh water before they migrate to the estuaries and ocean in the spring, most commonly three years from emergence. Coastal cutthroat trout usually spend less than 1 year in salt water before returning to spawn. The age of adults can range from 2 to age 10, with first time spawning fish usually being 3 or 4 years old. After spawning, the adults return to salt water in late March or early April.

Large woody debris and in-stream structures are important habitat for coastal cutthroat trout. In freshwater, adult cutthroat typically reside in large pools or undercut banks with overhanging trees which provide shade while the young reside in riffles, most commonly in upper tributaries of small rivers.

Coastal Cutthroat spawn in small tributary streams, and utilize slow flowing backwater areas, calm pools, and side channels for rearing of their young. Healthy forests and good insect populations are a key to their survival.

While living in the estuary or the ocean phase of life, the cutthroat trout utilizes tidal sloughs, marshes, and swamps for feeding on small fish and crustaceans .

Estuary fly fishing for Sea-Run Cutthroat is where I like to do most of my fishing for them. Cutthroat are very good biters when in the estuaries. They have been feeding well and are big in size. I will fish a six-weight rod lined with an intermediate sink line and a 3X-4X leader. You can find cutthroat in the estuaries along undercut banks, woody debris and overhanging trees. They are usually schooled up down in the estuary so when you do find them you will usually find several.

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**Santiam Flycasters Newsletter**  
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**Santiam Flycasters**

### Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Santiam Flycasters to promote the sport of fly fishing for all interested individuals of all generations now and into the future by fellowship, education, conservation practices, promoting research, guardian-ship of proper regulations and support, affiliation and cooperation with other like minded organizations.

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[www.santiamflycasters.com](http://www.santiamflycasters.com)

My favorite fly patterns while fishing the estuaries are the Spruce Fly, Mickey Finn, Black Nose Dace, Clouser Minnows (tied small), and Knudsen Spiders. Fishing in the fresh-water section of coastal rivers I like to use either a floating line or a short sink tip with Glo-bugs, Cabellero eggs, Spruce flies and Mickey Finns.

Coastal Cutthroat trout are truly a remarkable fish and should be caught and released safely. We are in the midst once again of the ODFW wanting to open up the north coast to catch and kill on cutthroat quoted as “angling opportunity”. We need to voice our opinion against this at the upcoming September 19<sup>th</sup> commission meeting in Forest Grove.

If you want to write a letter on opposing the proposed catch and kill regulation change on north coast cutthroat please send it to the address below or send it via e-mail to:

[odfw.commission@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.commission@state.or.us)

If you bring written materials to the hearing, please provide twelve (12) copies. If you have questions regarding this Agenda, please contact Casaria Tuttle, Director’s Office, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 3406 Cherry Ave. NE, Salem, Oregon, 97303, or call (503) 947-6044.



Umpqua River Blue Gill. You can't see much of the fly, but it was a big foam popper.

### Want to Learn More?

New to the club and want to meet more people? Interested in getting involved in the club events and outing? There are many opportunities for to meet our members and learn more about the vast fly-fishing waters in Oregon. There are many members in the club, willing and able to teach you more about the various skills and techniques needed to fly-fish Oregon waterways. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Dan Shimek at [santiamflycasters@yahoo.com](mailto:santiamflycasters@yahoo.com)

## Calendar of Events

### Board Meeting

**When:** September 8, 2008 @ 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Rock-N-Roger Restaurant  
3135 Commercial SE

### General Meeting:

**When:** September 11, 2008 @ 7:00 pm  
**Topic:** Oregon’s Northeast Corner  
**Presenter:** Mac Huff  
**Where:** Pringle Hall

### Club Outing:

**When:** September 13, 2008  
**Where:** Hosmer Lake  
Camping @ South Campground

## October

### Board Meeting

**When:** October 6, 2008 @ 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Rock-N-Roger,  
3135 Commercial Se

### General Meeting:

**When:** October 9, 2008 @ 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Pringle Hall  
**Presenter:** TBA  
**Topic:** TBA

### Outing:

**When:** October 18, 2008  
**Where:** Deschutes River  
Camping @ Trout Creek

**Santiam Flycasters**  
**PO Box 691**  
**Salem, Oregon 97308**



**2008 Membership Application**

The Santiam Flycasters, P.O. Box 691, Salem, OR 97308  
[www.santiamflycasters.com](http://www.santiamflycasters.com)

Type of Membership (circle one) Regular \$25 Family \$30

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an FFF Member? (circle one) Yes No

*You must sign this release each year when you renew to participate in club activities.*

*\*Note: Dues are from January 1st to December 31st. There is a 50% reduction after July 1st.*

**Liability Release and Hold Harmless Agreement**

As a condition of membership or of participation in any activity encouraged or publicized by the Santiam Flycasters, I voluntarily assume all risks of my participation. In acknowledgment that I am doing so entirely upon my own initiative, risk and responsibility I do hereby for myself, heirs, executors, and administrators agree to remise, fully release, hold harmless, and forever discharge the Santiam Flycasters, all its officers, board members and volunteers, acting officially or otherwise, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions, on account of my death or on account of any injury to me or my property that may occur from any cause whatsoever while participating in any such Santiam Flycasters activity.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this hold harmless and release agreement, and fully understand that it is a release of liability. I further acknowledge that I am waving any rights that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against the Santiam Flycasters for its negligence.

I have read the above statement and agree to its terms as a condition of my membership in the Santiam Flycasters.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Name Date

X \_\_\_\_\_ Signature  
Print Name Date