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MO Fishing

The Newsletter of the Springfield Chapter of the
Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association

Formed in 1972 to serve all fishermen in the Springfield area

February 2022

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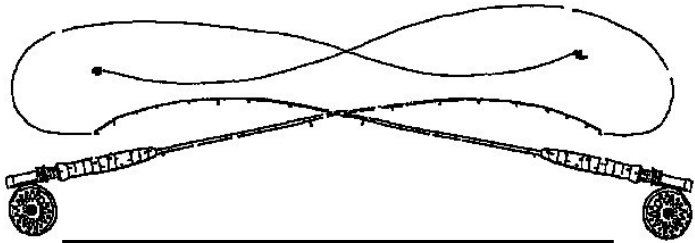
The MTFA Springfield Chapter

will not meet

on February 3rd as planned. Due to the high case numbers of Covid infections we have decided to take February off and plan to be back in March.

Bruce Hinkston, President

**2022 is the 50th anniversary of the Springfield Chapter of the
Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association**



The Catch and Release season in the state trout parks comes to an end on Monday, February 14. The season ends at the end of day whistle and fishing will not be allowed again until the Catch and Keep season opens on March 1.

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In this paragraph, Fishing Permits are what was formerly known as fishing licenses. 2021 Fishing Permits expire at the end of February 2022. Missouri residents ages 65 or older may fish without permit. Anyone age 15 and younger (resident or nonresident) may fish without a permit.

A Trout Permit is different from the fishing permit discussed above. A Trout Permit is required to possess trout, except in trout parks where you must purchase a daily trout fishing tag. A Trout Permit is required for all winter fishing in trout parks and for all fishing year-round in Lake Taneycomo upstream from U.S. Highway 65 bridge. There no exemptions for age.

Bob Randall

Chapter News: At the January meeting, we held our annual charity raffle for the Pipkin Middle School. Treasurer Dennis Stead says, "We raised \$160 on raffles plus the the \$85 from the Christmas 50/50 raffle is \$245. We voted to give Pipkin \$1,000." Jerry Jester, in the middle of the photo, was in charge of the raffle. He presents the check to the school officials in this photo. Jerry says, "On my left is the principal and head nurse and on my right is the principles boss and the assistant nurse"

Many of the Pipkin Middle School students are disadvantaged, needing coats, shoes, and other basic needs, as well as school supplies. Thanks for coordinating this event, Jerry.



MTFA Secretary's Report/Minutes for January 2022

Meeting came to order at 6:15

The meeting was held with all attendees. There were a total of 10 members at the meeting.

MSU Beginning Fly Fishing Class Report, (*From last meeting-Bob Randall: Potential Dates for the class are March 31, April 7, 21, 28, May 5 and 7 for field trips to Mountain Springs Trout Park and Roaring River State Park. A minimum number of students has to be met before the class will be scheduled*):

No new information on the class at this time.

The Pipkin school raffle: January Meeting. \$1.00 raffle tickets.

The club voted to donate \$1,000.00 to Pipkin. Part of this was raised at the raffle and more is expected to be raised by raffling the two Fly plaques over the next few months. Planning to sell the raffle tickets for \$5 each.

Chair Positions: No action was taken on this due to the low turnout.

Program Chair

Social Chair

Equipment and Supplies Chair

Liaison to National and State Affiliate Fly Fishing Association

Old Business:

Fly Tying Demonstration at Nature Center: Had five tiers at the Nature Center.

BSSP Table Project: *Installing new lumber on the picnic tables of Pavilion B at BSSP. The park would like for us to do the work. The preference of the committee is to keep the project within the Springfield Chapter and offer to include people from other Chapters if they would like to help. Using the memorial fund to pay for the lumber and supplies and doing the work on a weekday were also preferred by the committee. Bob will check with Park Staff on the option of doing to the work on a weekend. The park staff said the project could be done on a weekend and suggested March or April due to the weather.*

The date proposed by the membership is Saturday, April 30th.

New Business:

Appoint Delegates to the March State Council Meeting:

Harry Morgan and Dennis Stead did it last year

No action taken on this.

Fly tying occurred from 6:00 to 7:00.

Program: Pipkin Raffle

10 members attended the meeting.

Chapter Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Fishing Reports:

Dick Solomon: Fishing at Tanney yesterday (1/12/2022) was good to great, started off at outlet one and landed my biggest fish on a size 18 Renegade. Moved to outlet two and the dry failed so I shifted to a trio combo of cork pellet, hot pink egg and a size 18 gray scud. caught over 30 fish on that combo. Left at 2:30. Didn't see one brown, but a whole lot of bows over 20-25in. size. Caught one twice, he had a notch cut on his head probably from a prop. Anyway he broke me off with my scud in his lip. One last comment, I shifted to 6.5x tippets and think that helped, normally I fish 4-6 lb tippets.

Dick Solomon: "Fishing was real good yesterday (1/14/2022) at Tanney, when I left a 2;30 there were no fishermen from the wooden steps to the Dam. Myself and one other man was fishing #2 outlet and from what I could see downstream to the Re-bar hole only 2 were in the water. That made sense because there were only 3 cars in the parking lot. Between the two of us, we were both fishing Gray Scuds. WE probably caught well over 60 fish. This fellow caught a huge brown and several large bows fishing close to the bank near the steps. I caught mine in the white water below the outlet flow in the shallow water."

Les Wilson: "Monday 1/25/22 Peggy and I had some business to attend to so a late start, Arrived at Roaring River at 1130, fished until 4 pm. Started with a root beer midge under an indicator, no love, but noticed more interest in our indicators than the midge. Switched to stimulators, one orange other olive, lots of inspections but only one missed take. There was a hatch going of a small midges, being taken on top or in the film. We choose the smallest pale morning and blue morning duns that we had, size 20-22, likely a size 22 griffins knat or Dans Turkey Tail emerger would have been better, but....we did not bring such with us.

It was not fast and furious but we ended at 4 with 8 and 7 to hand respectively none of notable size. As many our you know we are not frequent park fishers. The take was a bit unusual to me, the fly would drift past a fish showing interest, but no take, then about the time our mend would be up and a drag to start, they would turn and smash the fly, IF it had not started drag.

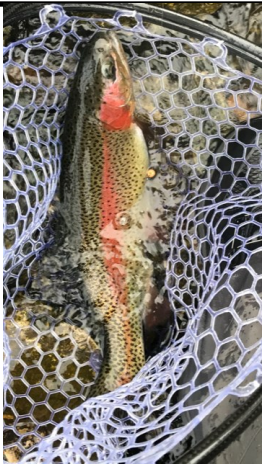
Great day to get out of the house after the cold snap, park was more crowded with hikers and kids out of school for covid than fishermen. We are blessed to have such nice parks to enjoy."



Dick Solomon, Taneycomo, 1/14/2022, size 20 grey scuds

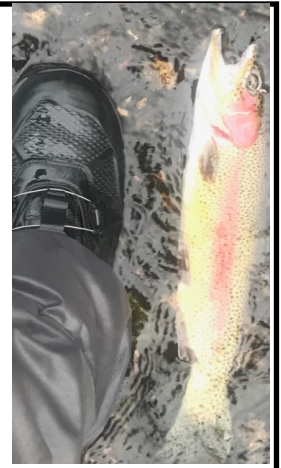
1/17/2022, Old Chinese Proverb, never stick Thumb in Browns mouth for pictures.





Mike Kidd: "Fishing was good on Taneycomo with peach eggs and pellet flies."

"Dick Solomon and I fished Bennett today (Friday, 1/28). I stopped after catching 40 on pellet flies and peach eggs. Dick caught over 14 when I left to fish Taneycomo today."



Kim Schultz, January Fishing Report

-Jan 3: (Bennett Spring SP) I drove up early to Bennett Spring SP and secured the pavilion for the MTFA derby in May. The morning temperature was 13°, above freeze by 11AM, the sky was sunny with only a light wind. I stopped in Reading Fly Shop to chat with Charlie and then drove to Lebanon for breakfast. I returned to the park before 11 AM, put on the waders and began fishing in zone 1 above the dam. Rod drove in later; we fished with the bright sun showing our casting errors and had a challenging time fooling trout with our dry flies. At 1 PM, I moved down stream into zone 2 below the bridge and riffle and was able to catch a few and release by hand. Rod and I released twenty-one trout for the five hours of fishing.

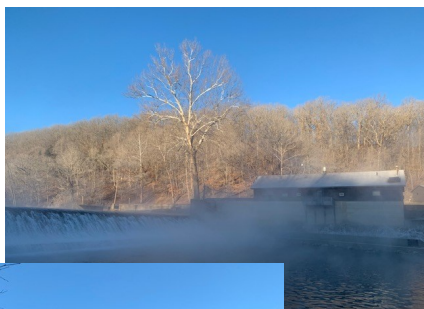
-Jan 10: (Bennett Spring SP) The morning started at 20° and warmed to the low forties, I fished below the bridge in zone 2 and fished farther down today, caught several trout over 16" with eighteen released by hand. I did have an eagle fly directly overhead as I was fishing, always a joy to see them in the wild.

-Jan 14: (Bennett Spring SP) I fished farther downstream in zone 2 and fished most of the day above whistle bridge. There was a good hatch of pale morning duns on the water and the trout were eager to take them off the surface. I fished with a short line and managed fifty trout to hand. There were very few fishermen near me as a few fishermen standing in the outlet water were taking a few.

-Jan 22-23: (Montauk SP) I met Rod and his house before 7:30 AM and we drove to Montauk to fish the weekend, staying overnight at the lodge. On the way to the park on Hwy 63 we saw several eagles, one was carrying maybe a squirrel with a crow chasing. We were in the water by 11 AM and saw many trout was a hatch of mayflies. We fished to the blue hole and at 1 PM, fished below the dam. Again, saw a decent hatch. Rod and I each released fifteen from hand on Saturday. There were many memories made with numerous missed setting hooks on rising trout. After the horn blew, we left the water and checked into our room for the night and ate at the lodge. (The host and people at the lodge are the best) After diner, we walked outside to see the deer move into the grassy meadow near the hatchery raceways to feed on new grass, maybe 50-75 deer ate together. On Sunday, we had breakfast at the lodge and packed our gear into the car and on the water by 10:30 AM. We started above the dam and worked our way upstream to the blue hole. The trout were rising to a few bugs on top. Rod was using an Adam's dry fly with success. I stayed with the PMD dry fly. We saw muskrats, mink, and deer throughout the day. The last two hours went below the dam, fishing the same area the day before. I caught my largest and smallest trout of the day. A four-inch barred rainbow in shallow water and a 17" rainbow with another fly in his mouth, it looked like one of mine with a break off the day before. Rod finished the day with 30+ trout to hand and I released twenty-one. Overall, the Montauk trip was very good and recommend fishing it during catch and release season. On the drive home saw eight groups of deer feeding in the field ranging from eight to a dozen in each group.

Only a few days left for the end of Winter trout catch and release at the state parks. Hopefully, you will have a chance to get out. Tight lines.... Kim Schultz

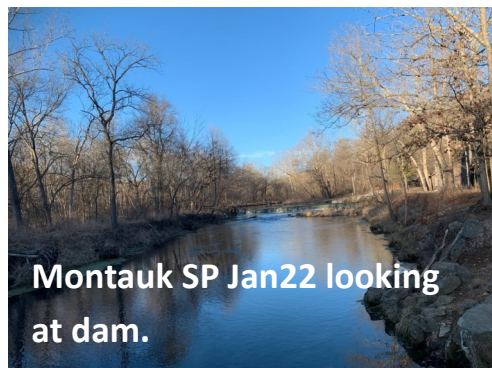
**Kim
Schultz:**



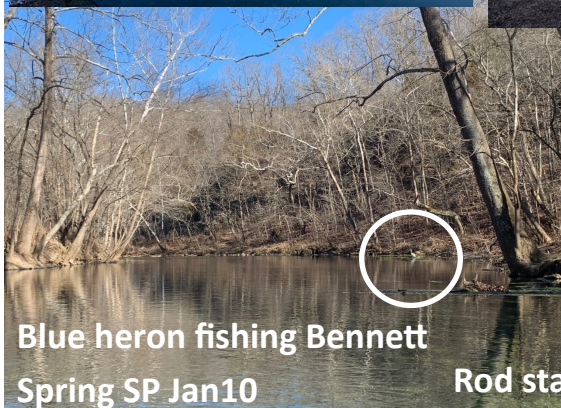
Bennett Spring SP Jan3



cool morning



**Montauk SP Jan22 looking
at dam.**



**Blue heron fishing Bennett
Spring SP Jan10**

**Rod starting the day at
Montauk SP Jan22**



**Montauk SP near Blue hole
above dam**



Bruce Hinkston:

"Made a trip to Clear Lake, Iowa and got in 2 days of ice fishing. We each caught around 22 keeper Yellow Perch the first day. Moved to a different spot the second day and only caught a few Yellow Perch, but I did catch my first Walleye on Clear Lake."



Conservation Legislation News as reported by the Conservation Federation of Missouri's Legislative Action Center:

SJR 32: Amends the Constitution to assert the right to hunt and fish. CFM opposes this bill because it "Same old problematic language that could be used to attack Conservation Commission rule making."

Bennett Spring Hatchery Construction Work *From Missouri Department of Conservation, excerpts from article By Francis Skalicky, Published Date 01/14/2022*

"Visitors to Bennett Spring State Park will soon notice the sights and sounds of heavy machinery operating within the park. This work is the first phase of a renovation project at the Missouri Department of Conservation's (MDC) Bennett Spring Hatchery that will ensure one of Missouri's most popular trout parks will remain a premier destination for family fishing fun.

MDC is working with HDR Engineering Inc. on a multi-year \$20 million project that will repair or replace portions of the hatchery's aging infrastructure. This project will incorporate new technologies that will improve fish production and repair or replace parts of the hatchery that either are no longer functioning or functioning poorly due to age.

Phase I of the project is underway and includes several actions at the park that are part of field investigations. Projects involved with this phase include surveying, flow monitoring, geotechnical investigations, locating utilities, and development of a groundwater test well.

What visitors to Bennett Spring will notice most during this initial phase are the sounds of machinery and periodic access restrictions to some parts of the park. MDC's consultant will be drilling a groundwater test well at the north end of the hatchery (near Bennett Spring State Park Lodge). During drilling and well-testing activities, the park road to the campground will be restricted to one lane of traffic but will remain open to through traffic. Drilling activities have already begun and will conclude by the end of January. Well testing will follow the drilling process and is scheduled to be conducted in February.

After field investigations are complete, the consultant will begin the design during Phase II. This phase will have limited impact on the activity at the state park.

Phase III will be the construction phase. Proposed improvements for the hatchery facility are a new intake structure, reconstruction of some raceways, piping improvements, and numerous upgrades that will protect the hatchery from flood events and improve fish production capability. Upgrades will also be made to the MDC hatchery office, the shop and feed storage facilities.

The construction phase is scheduled to begin in 2023 and is estimated to take two years to complete. During construction, there may be some temporary restrictions to fishing access on parts of the stream. MDC will work with Bennett Spring State Park staff to communicate to the public the impact that construction may have on the park.

"These renovations will breathe new life into our aging hatchery, improving safety for hatchery staff along with providing enhanced security for our trout," said MDC Bennett Spring Hatchery Manager Ben Havens. "Utilizing new technologies will enable us to raise quality fish for the public to enjoy for many years to come."

When the construction phase begins, the hatchery will not be operating. Existing fish will be moved to MDC hatcheries at Shepherd of the Hills, Montauk and Roaring River during this period. Though the hatchery will be closed during the construction phase of the renovation project, anglers will not see any changes to existing seasons. Fish transported from other MDC hatcheries will be stocked daily during the regular season at Bennett Spring. The winter catch-and-release season will not be impacted."

[First phase of renovation project underway at MDC's Bennett Spring Hatchery | Missouri Department of Conservation \(mo.gov\)](https://www.mo.gov/newsroom/2022/01/14/bennett-spring-hatchery-constructing-improvements)

How to choose the right tippet size

Most tippet sizes will support three or four fly sizes before they either get too stiff for a lifelike presentation or too thin to straighten a fly. In general, choose the heavier size if the water is dirty, if it's windy, or if the fish are unusually strong.

Choose the finer size if the water is very clear and the fish are spooky, or if you are fishing tricky currents and drag is a problem, because a thinner tippet will lessen un-natural drag on your fly.

For average conditions choose the middle size.

TIPPET SIZE	TIPPET DIAMETER	BREAKING STRENGTH	BALANCES WITH FLY SIZES:
8X	.003"	1.75	22, 24, 26, 28
7X	.004"	2.5	18, 20, 22, 24
6X	.004"	3.5	16, 18, 20, 22
5X	.006"	4.75	14, 16, 18
4X	.007"	6	12, 14, 16
3.5	.008"	8.5	6, 8, 10
2X	.009"	11.5	4, 6, 8
1X	.010"	13.5	2, 4, 6
0X	.011"	15.5	1/0, 2, 4
.012	.012"	18.5	5/0, 4/0, 3/0, 2/0
.013	.013"	20	5/0, 4/0, 3/0, 2/0
.015	.015"	25	5/0, 4/0, 3/0, 2/0

[Choosing Equipment - Equipment Articles - How to Choose the Right Tippet Size \(orvis.com\)](#)

Older newsletters through 2007 are archived here: <http://www.mtfa-springfield.org/news-events/newsletter/newsletter-archive/>

If you would like to submit an article for the MTFA newsletter, please put MTFA NL in the email subject line and send to Bob Randall: bobbyleensandy@gmail.com

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