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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**

September 2019

Volume 13 No.9

Notes for the September Meeting

Ben Havens, the hatchery manager at Bennett Springs will present the program.

Meet the new Social Chair, Eric Shinault. Thanks to Eric, we will be continuing our social functions.

Missouri Trout Fishermen's Association - Springfield Chapter Calendar of Events for September, 2019

September 5 MTFA-Springfield Meeting – Nature Center @ 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

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From the President's Desk – Dennis Stead

Insect-o-rama was a great success. We staffed 9 tying stations. Those tying were Patti Hayes, Todd Fecho, John Dozier, Dan Ditzler, Bill Huyett, Larry Wegmann, Jerry Jester, Harry Morgan and I. Sorry no pictures but great job. Per Rudy Martinez, Nature Center Manager, "I don't know what you all did differently but people were super excited about the flies you were tying and passing out."

Come to the meeting on the 5th of September to meet our new social chairman.

We also had 20 new members sign up at the Expo Shop.

They are (not in alphabetic order) Terry Tanner, Kevin Skibiski, Courtney Chiles, Jarred Mathena. Ted Roberts, Austin Presley, Jim Johnson, Zach Smith, Terry Thompson, Brenda Thompson, Sarah Havens, Carl Rogers, Dorothy Utterblk, Louisa Runnalls, Chad Holgerson, Ron Scurlock, Paul Goodwin, Dennis Shane, Michael Haught, and Jim Rogers. If you see them at the meeting, make sure they are welcomed.

Reports: Ron Ward, Mike Kidd, Craig Randall, and Bob Randall went fishing in Alaska from August 17 through the 23rd. The water was unseasonably warm and low. [A warm Alaska June was followed by the hottest month ever recorded in the state. The average temperature in July was 58.1 degrees, 5.4 degrees above the historical average with records maintained since 1925.](#) There was much talk in the lodge and amongst the guides about how the big silver run hadn't happened yet. Nevertheless, everyone caught salmon, silver, pink, chum, and, at least, a couple of small kings. The Naknek River is famous for its trophy rainbows that grow large on salmon eggs. The biggest take of trophy bows is in the fall. Still, bows in the 20 to 25 inch range were caught. A longer report in story form is at <http://www.mtfa-springfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Alaska-post.pdf>

The Pebble Mine by Bob Randall



There is science and there is politics.

The Bristol Bay in Alaska is America's largest wild salmon fishery. It is downstream of the proposed Pebble Mine. [Pebble Mine—a giant gold and copper mine proposed at the headwaters of a region that produces half of the world's sockeye salmon; contributes \\$1.5 billion-annually in economic activity; supports 14,000 jobs; and provides the lifeblood of indigenous culture and subsistence.](#)

[“In 2010, tribal leaders, commercial fishermen and sportsmen in Alaska petitioned EPA to use its 404\(c\) authority to protect Bristol Bay from the Pebble Mine. After conducting a thorough three-year, twice-peer reviewed \[scientific assessment\]\(#\) that found the](#)

Pebble Mine would result in “significant” and even “catastrophic” harm to the Bristol Bay watershed, EPA issued a [proposed determination under Section 404\(c\)](#) that would place common-sense restrictions on the Pebble Mine—sparking thanks from the residents and tribes of Bristol Bay and outrage from the mining industry.”

However, [the same day Trump and \(Alaska Governor\) Dunleavy met in June \(2019\), the EPA publicly announced that it would begin reconsidering whether to withdraw the Clean Water Act restriction on the Pebble Mine.”](#) [“Christine Todd Whitman, who served as an Environmental Protection Agency administrator during the George W. Bush administration, said the EPA's decision to lift the restriction on the mine before the agency's scientists fully reviewed the matter could violate the Clean Water Act.”](#) "It's politics trumping policy and good science," said Whitman.

This article was written by Newsletter Editor, Bob Randall, and reflects his opinion not necessarily the group opinion of the MTFA-Springfield. The links in the article will lead you to the appropriate references if you wish to explore them.

Fishing Pics



For more: [Click here.](#)

Pic of the Month:



Fly of the Month: The Tiger Tail

This is not a new fly to us. You recognize it as a very effective fly from [River Run Outfitters](#). However, Mike Kidd has a new twist to it (actually, it's a new type of tail).

Recipe (from RRO):

Hook: TMC 5263 (or equivalent), sizes 10-12

Thread: 6/0 Red

Tail: Dry fly hackle, olive grizzly

Body: Peacock herl

Hackle: Olive wooly bugger hackle

Lead wire appropriate for the hook size selected



Apply lead wire to hook. Generally, we use 12-15 wraps of .015 on a size 12 hook. Attach thread and secure lead in place. Wrap thread back to area even with point of hook. Attach tail. Now attach hackle and then 3-4 strands of peacock herl. Secure. Lightly wrap herl around thread (to help make it stronger) and wrap forward forming body of fly. Secure behind eye of hook. Now spiral hackle forward. Secure behind eye.

Mike's "twist" is to substitute two pieces of ostrich herl for the tail, arranging them so they splay out at an angle from center. It livens up the action. No photo to show, Mike is playing his cards close to his chest. Try them both ways. Thanks to River Run Outfitters and Mike Kidd.

Video of the Month: <https://howtoflyfish.orvis.com/video-lessons/chapter-five-wet-fly-nymph-fishing>

Matthew Peet from the Branson Chapter contacted Michael J. Mitchell, Fisheries Administrative Manager, Missouri Department of Conservation about *the controversy about using rubber legs of flies in “flies only areas”*. See the following:

“Question came up among some fly fishermen as to what is the definition of soft plastic lures. Many of us tie flies of foam rubber materials, with rubber legs. I was told recently by an enforcement officer that these foam rubber hopper patterns would be considered soft plastic and there for illegal to use in areas where this is restricted, such as Taneycomo C & R waters just below Table Rock Dam? The term soft plastic seems to vague to use as an enforcement trigger! Help!”

Answer: The current interpretation by MDC protection staff is that flies constructed of materials that snap back from stretching and are soft and pliable are considered soft plastic bait. Since the fly definition does not allow for soft plastic bait to be used in a fly, flies constructed of such materials are illegal to use in fly only areas.

3 CSR 10-20.805 Definitions

(25) Flies, lures, and baits: The following are authorized for use except where restricted in 3 CSR 10-6.415, 3 CSR 10-6.535, 3 CSR 10-11.205, 3 CSR 10-12.135, and 3 CSR 10-12.150.

(A) Natural and scented baits—A natural fish food such as bait fish, crayfish, frogs permitted as bait, grubs, insects, larvae, worms, salmon eggs, cheese, corn, and other food substances not containing any ingredient to stupefy, injure, or kill fish. Does not include flies or artificial lures. Includes dough bait, putty or paste-type bait, any substance designed to attract fish by taste or smell, and any fly, lure, or bait containing or used with such substances.

(B) Soft plastic bait (unscented)—Synthetic eggs, synthetic worms, synthetic grubs, and soft plastic lures.

(C) Artificial lure—A lure constructed of any material excluding soft plastic bait and natural and scented bait as defined in (A) or (B) above.

(D) Fly—An artificial lure constructed on a single-point hook, using any material *except soft plastic bait* and natural and scented bait as defined in (A) or (B) above, that is tied, glued, or otherwise permanently attached.

I hope this information is helpful and if I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Thanks!

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I Wish I'd Said That

Three simple, yet very effective ways to catch way more fish on your next adventure:

-**Cover more water**, spend no more than 15 minutes in the same spot. 90% of the fish in the river will take a well-presented fly in the first 3 casts. The rest will take a lot of convincing.

-**Have the right seasonal flies**, don't bring your hoppers to the river on a cold April day and don't leave your tricos at home in August.

- **Spend 5 minutes observing**, grab your gear, walk down to the river.

From Allen Gardner, The Catch and the Hatch

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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