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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

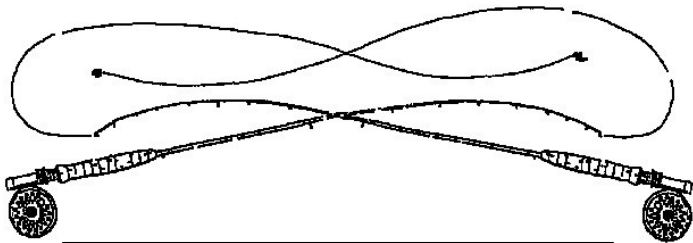
July 2023

Volume 17 No.07

**The July 2023 Meeting is on Thursday, July 6, at 6 pm  
At the Library Center in Community Room B**

## July Guest Speaker

Our guest speaker will be Shane Bush. He will discuss Taneycomo and has a recent Taneycomo sampling information to share. I recall a recent news item, from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), they will be working with partners to refurbish fish habitat brush piles throughout Table Rock and Bull Shoals reservoirs and establishing new sites throughout the lakes. The project will be funded through a grant received by Bass Pro Shops to replenish and establish fish habitat sites. I am sure if you have any questions, concerns, or additional information about Taneycomo, Shane is the best source for that information.



### Springfield Chapter Officers

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***Bill Huyett will tie our featured fly, the Renegade, on July 27, at the Library Center Community Room B. 6pm***



### Recipe:

Hook: Dry fly standard - TMC 100 sizes 10-18

Thread: Black Danville's 70 Denier 6/0 or similar

Aft Hackle: Brown (size dependent on hook)

Fore Hackle: White (size dependent on hook)

Body: Peacock Herl

### ***Fishing Reports:***



***Kim Schultz: June Fishing 06/24/2023:*** I have made several trips to Galena, fishing James River in June. I took the Fishcat pontoon, and it work with the current conditions. The river is normal height and flow for this time of the year with the lake up from the April fishing trip. The lake goes almost to Taylor Shoal. I am finding 10" red ears and quality bluegill fishing up from Blunk Access. River left along the bluff and rocky edge is full of green sunfish, one can easy catch 50-75 fishing in a few hours using a popper or #8 dry fly with over wrapped hackles for better buoyancy. I plan to return in near future trips.

4.8ft 549cfu 914ft 20230425 4.4ft 360cfs 916ft 20230624

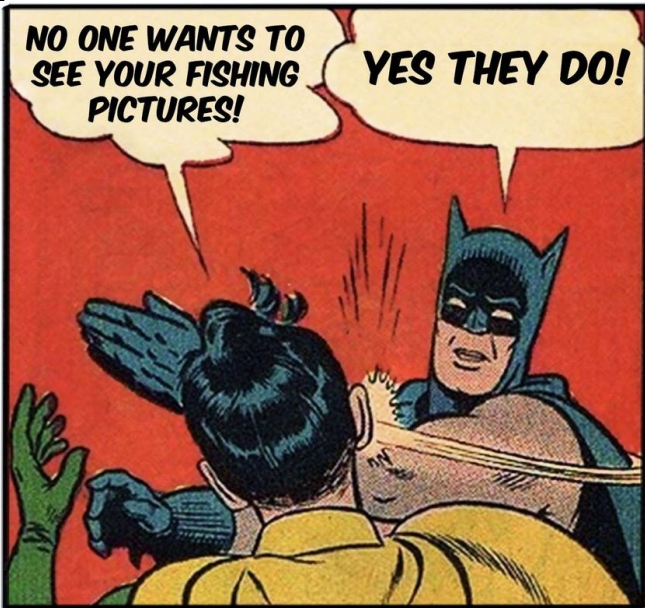


**Fishing Reports continued:**

**Pat Taggart, 6/9, "my older brother, Mike, and I fished Bennett Springs today. Had breakfast at the lodge then fished upstream of the dam. Caught a bunch of nice fish and lost some nice fish. Used a #16 red SanJuan worm and a #16 sponge bug, my brothers invention. Sunny with a light breeze. Still lots of moss coming downstream."**



**Russ Doughty: 6/22/2023 "We (Mike Kidd, Wayne Frizzel, and me) have been catching rainbows up to 24" on Taneycomo sculpins, on Taney. They are really on fire."**

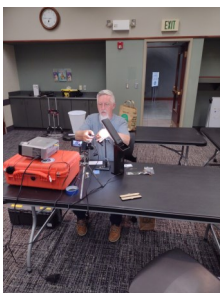


**Beadhead Prince Nymph tied by Christian Andrews**

- Hook: Size 14 / 18 nymph
- Head: Gold tungsten bead to fit hook
- Weight: lead or weighted wire
- Thread: black or red thread
- Tail: 2 dark biots (brown/black)
- Ribbing: gold or copper wire, or gold uni-French oval, or tinsel
- Body: three or four peacock herls
- Hackle: hen hackle to fit hook
- Wing: 2 light biots (white/yellow)



**Fly tying event: 6/22/2023: Tungsten Beadhead Prince Nymph presented by Christian Andrews**



# SPRING FISHING TRIP TO FLAMING GORGE, UTAH

May 7 – 11, 2023, Chris and Emily Diggons

Emily and I recently returned from fishing the Green River, below the Flaming Gorge Dam in Utah. We spent four days floating and fly fishing the Green with guides from Old Moe's Guide Service, located in Dutch John, Utah. We are sharing this trip with you in the event you are looking for some of the best trout fishing in the lower 48.

The tailwaters of the Flaming Gorge Dam is home for wild Brown Trout, giant Rainbow Trout, and Cutthroat Trout along with [Mountain Whitefish](#). The guides had us on fish most of the day. Most of the fish were in the 14- to 19-inch range. Emily's big catch was a 21¼-inch wild Brown Trout and a 22½-inch Rainbow Trout.



We were originally scheduled to drift two days out of our four day visit to the green, but due to a scheduling issue, another boat and guide became available for the days we weren't floating on the river. Our group coordinator contacted us and asked if we were interested, and we immediately said yes. This led an amazing guide, but more on that later.

We drifted the section of the Green River below Flaming Gorge Dam. The three sections of river below the dam are referred to as Section A, B,

and C. Section A is the first seven miles that extend from the base of the dam to Little Hole access. Section B extends below Little Hole for eight miles to Indian Crossing, and Section C is about 11 miles starting at Indian Crossing to Swinging Bridge. In my opinion, Section A has the best fishing opportunities. This year we stayed with Section A because the winter runoff caused Sections B and C to be murky, and filled with floating vegetation.

Our fishing day started at about 8 a.m. when we met the guide at a local gas station. From there, the guide drove us and the boat to the base of the dam. The morning temperatures were in the mid to upper 30s with the afternoons topping out in the upper 60s and low 70s. We were in luck as most of the days were sunny. The flow was at 800 cu. ft., which is a seasonal low due to work being carried out on the dam. We brought our own rods, and the guides tied their favorite leaders/rigs for the day.

In the mornings we used a double dropper with midges and a balloon indicator. In the afternoons we used blue wing olives and pheasant tails, matching the hatch. One guide added a florescent orange San Juan worm as an attractor during a slow period, and it worked to improve the catch. Genius.

We stopped halfway through the full-day fishing trip to have lunch. The guide broke out a small grill, and we had hamburgers one day and grilled chicken the other day. The other two days were lunch meat wraps, macaroni salad, and chips. Shelly, of Old Moe provided her outstanding giant cookie for dessert, my favorite part of the stop.

## **Our Guides**

We fished Monday and Wednesday with Cori-Alice and Tuesday and Thursday with Paul. Cori-Alice had visited Dutch John and the Green River several years ago, and after two hours of fishing and seeing the natural wonders of the area, she resigned her teaching position in the east and moved there. She is the lone woman guide at Old Moe's, and I didn't notice another woman guide on the river the entire week. Both Emily and I enjoyed our experience with her. She was engaging, knew the river, where the fish were lurking, and how to attract them. She is a master of maneuvering the boat, using the oars and currents in the river, and a font of information and instruction on fly fishing. We made a point of scheduling her for next year's trip to the Green.



Our other guide, Paul, has been fishing a couple of decades for Old Moe but will retire in October 2023 to move east to be with family. Another master of the river and fly fishing, he, as was Cori, took great care handling the fish, releasing them back into the river.

## **The Boat**

Most of the guides use drift boats based on the McKenzie River drift boat design. Prior to the 1920s, guides were using the traditional rowboat but found it difficult to maneuver in the fast and convoluted currents of the McKenzie River. Around that time John and Roy West decided to design a boat that would be a better fit for the river. This design continued to evolve until the early 1940s, when there was a significant design improvement by Woodie Hindman that came in the form of the first double-ended drift boat. This rocking chair profile improved the maneuverability of the boat. In 1948 the upriver bow was replaced with a small flat transom. This and the use of plywood made a significant leap in the evolution of the boat and still used today.



We were told that they are seeing more inflatable raft designs on the river owned by the public, but the professional guides are sticking with the fiberglass drift boats. It's amazing to see the guides use the oars and the design of the boat to maneuver around rocks in the faster water, row upstream via the back eddies, and keep the boat aligned with whatever seam they are tracking to provide the fisher the best possible experience. For more information on the evolution of the drift boat, see Chris Santella's [A Brief History of the Drift Boat](#) on the Trout Unlimited website.

### [Old Moe's Guide Service](#)

Based in Dutch John, Utah, Old Moe has been guiding fishers on the Green since 1978. What started out with running 400 trips a year on the Green, Old Moe's turned into an all year fishing guide service. Shelly, the main person we interact with for coordinating lodging and guided trips on the river, is excellent, friendly, and very helpful. Shelly is another person who visited the Flaming Gorge area and decided to make it her home. Old Moe's offers year-round drift boat fly fishing trips and more.

Emily and I recommend the Green River for an outstanding trout fishing experience. Old Moe's Guide Service provides an exceptional experience.



# Conservation Federation

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## MISSOURI

### ***Missouri Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Missouri Department of Conservation***

Jefferson City, MO (June 13, 2023) – The Missouri Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) on June 13th, 2023. This judgment upholds the constitutional authority granted to MDC to spend their funds to acquire land and make payments in lieu of taxes to local government entities. After the Missouri Legislature passed a budget without the appropriate funds to allow the Missouri Conservation Commission (Commission) to purchase land they had budgeted for, a lawsuit arose to affirm the Commission’s right to spend the funds as they deemed fit.

Missouri voters granted the Commission that authority in 1936, by passing the constitutional amendment that formed a bipartisan commission responsible for managing the state’s natural resources in the best interest of Missouri citizens, and for the future generations of Missourians to come. This model of conservation has been envied and copied by other states around the country.

On September 2, 2021, the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) filed an Amicus Brief for the case in support of MDC and the Commission’s authority. CFM believes the best way to manage Missouri’s natural resources is through the independent and apolitical Commission. Allowing our outdoors to be governed by the general assembly risks our plants, animals, soils, and waterways becoming political pawns, which the natural resources can seldom afford.

“We are very pleased to learn of the decision that was handed down by Missouri’s highest court that affirms what our organization has believed from the beginning regarding the appropriation authority of MDC,” said CFM Executive Director Tyler Schwartze. “Financial decisions and long-range planning must be left up to scientists and conservationists that have a deep understanding of our resources and that have our resource’s best interest in mind, so they can be preserved for future generations.”

These efforts will allow Missouri unparalleled outdoor opportunities for the decades to come. CFM is honored to be a voice not only for our state’s outdoors but also for concerned citizens throughout Missouri. The entire decision can be viewed on the Missouri Supreme Court’s website [here](#).

For more information about the Conservation Federation of Missouri, go to [confedmo.org](https://confedmo.org).

## ***Springfield's Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park hosts fishing Friday night***

**SPRINGFIELD, Mo. (KY3) - Springfield's Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park is hosting its fishing Friday night.**

**The event happens every second Friday of the month through August. It costs \$10 per person. It costs an extra \$5.50 to rent fishing poles.**

**"We just hope that families come out," said Jenny Filmer-Edwards of the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. "It's a multi-generational event...kids, parents, grandparents, everyone can enjoy fishing. Maybe not everybody is going to enjoy the bounce house as the kids and the cow train, but that's an extra something for kids to do. But it's really just a nice way to spend time with your family or your friends."**

**Besides fishing, families can enjoy a bonfire, a bounce house, and a cow train. The event goes from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

**To report a correction or typo, please email [digitalnews@ky3.com](mailto:digitalnews@ky3.com)**

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## ***MDC proposes adjusting permit prices and wants public input***

**Article by Joe Jerek, Published Date: 05/19/2023 Excerpts by newsletter editor**

**"JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is proposing adjusting prices for most hunting, fishing, trapping, and commercial permits in an effort to keep up with rising costs of goods and services it uses to manage its more than 1,000 conservation areas along with nature centers, shooting ranges, fish hatcheries, and other facilities."**

**"The price of a resident hunting and fishing permit would go from \$19 to \$20.50. The average price for surrounding states is \$42.47. The price of a resident fishing permit would go from \$12 to \$13. The average price for surrounding states is \$23."**

**... "Conservation efforts supported by revenue from permit sales include:**

**Maintaining and improving nine fish hatcheries around the state that raise and stock more than 7 million fish annually for public fishing – including about 1.3 million trout at five hatcheries.**

**Ongoing habitat work on nearly 1,000 conservation areas, including 15 intensively managed wetlands for public hunting and wildlife watching.**

**Expansion of popular youth offerings ...**

**Research on health and sustainability of deer, turkey, quail, waterfowl, songbirds, fish, bears, elk, and other species.**

**Evaluation of the effectiveness of harvest regulations for fish and wildlife game species and understanding resource-user preferences.**

**Restoration, monitoring, and protection of imperiled and endangered species and habitats.**

**Removal of invasive species that threaten the health of native species and habitats.**

**Maintaining and improving 15 nature and interpretative centers around the state.**



July 6: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B, July-Shane Bush MDC biologist  
July 27: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B Featured fly is the Renegade  
July 27 @ 12 noon through 29th, MTFA Expo, Branson MO, Fly tying exhibition, raffle drawings, Branson Hollister Lions Club. Contact Dennis Stead for information.  
August 3: Chapter meeting  
August 19: Kids fish free at Roaring River SP  
August 24: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B  
September 7: Mt Spring Highlandville Fishing Event and Picnic  
September 17: Veterans fish free at Roaring River SP  
September 28: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B  
September 30: Women's Free fishing Day at Bennett Spring SP  
October 5: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B Presentation: Ben Parnell, MDC Biologist Walleye  
Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B, Presentation: Tyler James River  
October 21: Chili Feed, Shepherd of the Hills Pavilion w/ Branson  
October 26: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B  
November 2: Monthly Chapter Meeting, Library Center, Community Room B, TBA  
November 16: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B  
December 7: Christmas Party & Installation of 2024 officers  
December 28: Chapter Fly Tying at Library Center, Community Room B

### ***Water levels:***

Roaring River water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)  
Taneycomo water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)  
Bennett Spring water level: [National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service](#)

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](mailto:bobbyleensandy@gmail.com)

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[Membership - Missouri Trout Fisherman's Association - Springfield Chapter \(mtfa-springfield.org\)](http://www.mtfa-springfield.org)