

## **The Latest on Broken Bow, Oklahoma**

**February 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Only a couple of weeks to go before our much anticipated outing to the trout filled waters of the Lower Mountain Fork River near Broken Bow Oklahoma. All plans are coming together and we have been talking to Mother Nature and the Weather Man to ensure a great weekend. At this time we have about 40 folks signed up to match wits with a creature that has a brain the size of a pea yet still manages to defeat us more often than not.

In an attempt to even up the match, Chris Johnson, owner of Living Waters Fly Fishing in Round Rock, Texas, (<http://livingwatersflyfishing.blogspot.com/>), will be conducting clinics on Saturday. These three clinics will cover; 1) Nymph fishing, 2) Dry Fly fishing, and 3) Fast water fishing. Each of these 2 to 3 hour clinics will cover analyzing the situation, selecting patterns to use, rigging the line, and presentation. There will be demonstration followed by on the water coaching. There seems to be great interest in these clinics and Chris has agreed to repeat the clinics on Sunday if necessary for those folks that are staying until Monday. The fee for these clinics is \$20 each or all three for \$50. Payment and scheduling will be at the mullet mixer meal on Friday night.

Speaking of eating, our Saturday dinner will be at Steven's Gap Restaurant, which is located about ½ mile north of our headquarters at Secluded Acres. This gives us choices from salad to steak at reasonable prices. They have a separate dining room for us where we can eat and have our business meeting. We will each order off the menu and receive individual tickets. Rumor has it that there will be a drawing for some door prizes that night so bring your lucky charm.

**If you have not already done so, please don't forget to notify the [BrokenBowCoordinator@twff.net](mailto:BrokenBowCoordinator@twff.net) of your attendance. Please include your lodging choice as well as arrival and departure days.**

*Remember, it's not too late to attend this outing!*

## Upcoming Broken Bow Outing February 17-19, 2012

Trout Fishing on the Lower Mountain Fork River  
Beavers Bend • Broken Bow, Oklahoma  
February 17 – 19, 2012  
Outing Coordinators: Pat and Don Carlson  
RSVP to Pat and Don at: BrokenBowCoordinator@twff.net

As trout only live in fabulous places, and this is the only trout outing scheduled in 2012, please join TWFF as we travel to beautiful Broken Bow in Southeast Oklahoma. We will spend February 17-19, 2012, fishing for Brown and Rainbow Trout in the well-populated waters of the Lower Mountain Fork River. Our fishing will concentrate at Beavers Bend State Park which is approximately 200 miles northeast of Dallas or 388 miles from Liberty Hill, TX. (but who's counting). As this is President's day weekend it is a great opportunity to spend an extra day or two.

Due to the popular reviews last year, the Headquarters for this outing will again be at Secluded Acres, 2.3 miles north of the main (south) entrance to Beavers Bend State Park entrance. (Directions are at the end of this article). Bring your marshmallow sticks for s'mores around the campfire.

### **Lodging and Headquarters:**

Secluded Acres, <http://www.beaversbendsecludedacres.com>, (580) 494-7301 offers 7 great cabins that will accommodate larger groups for those wanting to share space and lodge in near proximity of other members. The cabins are only 2 miles from the State Park. Secluded Acres also has RV sites available with full hookups. We will use their Meeting Room for our Mullet Mixer, Saturday Dinner and presentations. Please call Tom and let him know that you are reserving with the TWFF group. Make your reservations soon, as the cabins will book up quickly. Please make your reservations directly with Secluded Acres or the alternative lodging of your choice. Visit <http://www.beaversbendsecludedacres.com/maps> for more information and maps.

### **Alternate Lodging:**

### **Motels/Hotel:**

For those that prefer a motel to the cabin atmosphere, your coordinators have stayed at the Hochatown Country Lodge (888) 673-0016, Rooms are very comfortable and includes an excellent Continental Breakfast. The Lodge is located next to Three Rivers Fly Shop or about 2.3 miles from the Secluded Acres cabins. We are advised that we can get a room with two queen beds for ~\$69 per night. Call Amy for reservations and tell her that you are with TWFF for best prices. There are many other lodging facilities in or near Broken Bow such as the Broken Bow Inn and Microtel Inns & Suites. See <http://www.broken-bowchamber.com/> for the Broken Bow Chamber of Commerce for other lodging and activities.

**Cabin Rental:**

Hidden Hills Cabins, <http://www.hiddenhillscabinsok.com/>, (580) 306-5200, offers up-scale cabins that sleep from 2 to 16 persons.

Whip-Poor-Will Resort, <http://www.okresort.com/>, (580) 494-6476. This has been our headquarters in the past and the owners are always happy to see us.

**RV/Tent Camping:**

Secluded Acres also has RV sites available. Several members have stayed here with positive recommendations. Again call Tom for your reservations.

RV sites as well as cabins, are available in Beavers Bend State Park, <http://www.beaversbend.com/>, (580) 494-6300.

**Mullet Mixer, Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>:**

Our Mixer will be held at the Secluded Acres in the Meeting Room next to the cabins. Please bring a dish to share and your favorite beverages to the Meeting Room around 6:30 p.m. Our speaker for the Mullet Mixer will be Chris Johnson. He and his wife Emily, are the owners of Living Waters Fly-Fishing, a fly shop and guide service, based in Round Rock, TX. <http://www.livingwatersflyfishing.com> (512) 828-3474. Chris grew up in Round Rock and began fly-fishing on the rivers that he now guides on. Chris and Emily share a love for fly-fishing, and their passion for the sport is evident from the moment you meet them. Chris will discuss trout fishing the Lower Mountain Fork River. This will cover locations, fly selection, techniques, and presentations.

**Activities, Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>:**

For those of us wishing to move from “Fishing” to “Catching”, Chris will conduct on the water clinics. Topics will include Fast Water fishing; Dry Fly fishing; and Nymphing. Each of these 2-3 hour clinics will consist of demonstration followed by actual practice with Chris coaching. The cost for these clinics will be \$20 each or all three for \$50. Sign-ups and scheduling will be at the Friday Mixer. If there is desire and we talk nice, there may be more clinics on Sunday.

Saturday breakfast and lunch are on you own. Saturday night dinner will be catered and enjoyed in the meeting room around 6:30 p.m. The details are still being planned but we hope to have it catered by Abendigo's, a top restaurant in the area. Money will be collected Friday at the Mullet Mixer for your Saturday dinner. Please bring cash. Our business meeting will follow the dinner.

Then, more fishing on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday ...or as long as you like. Meals are on your own those days.

**About the Lower Mountain Fork River:**

The Lower Mountain Fork flows south out of Broken Bow Reservoir. This tailwater is the most noted year-round trout fishery in the state. Brown and rainbow trout are stocked regularly and may be found throughout the stream and its tributaries. The designated trout area includes a 12-mile reach of the Lower Mountain Fork River extending from Broken Bow Dam down stream to U.S. Highway 70 bridge. About 5 Miles of this designated trout stream lies within Beavers Bend State Park, which offers excellent fishing access.

Spillway Creek is a tributary of the Lower Mountain Fork River that is a part of the designated trout area. When you hike along Spillway Creek you feel as if you are in a Rocky Mountain Stream. This 1 1/2 mile stretch is the first section of the 12 mile designated trout stream and is one of the most popular fishing areas on the river. Several of our members have enjoyed successful trout fishing in this area. Several fish habitat structures have been installed throughout this section of the stream to improve fishing quality and angler success. Trout are stocked near these structures, providing excellent places for anglers to begin their trout fishing adventures. Habitat structures include boulder clusters, rock weirs and veins and medium stage check dams. These improvement areas are being stocked with trout on a regular basis to make your fishing better. A state record 17 pound 4 ounce brown trout was caught in 2005 from Zone II of the Lower Mountain Fork River. Below Beavers Bend State Park there are public access points at the Regulation Dam and Presbyterian Falls as well as a fee access site located near the Highway 70 bridge. You will need map and good instructions to get to Presbyterian Falls. Both of these places are more difficult to fish than Spillway Creek. *We do not recommend fishing Presbyterian Falls area due to the remoteness of the area.* Always fish with a buddy if you visit this area.

Non-Resident License Fee as follows:

**Note: Residents of Texas who are 65 years of age or older are exempt.**

Annual \$55.00

6 day \$35.00

- License is valid for 6 consecutive days and expires at midnight on the 6th day.
- Fishing license can be obtained online for an additional \$3.00 fee.
- Non-residents may also order licenses directly from the Wildlife Department by calling (405) 521-3852. Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. till 4:30p.m. (Visa or MasterCard only. Allow for mailing time to receive your license).

**Didymo, an aquatic nuisance species commonly referred to as "rock snot," has been identified in the Lower Mountain Fork River. To prevent spreading this undesirable organism, please clean and dry waders and other fishing equipment after use in the Lower Mountain Fork River.**

### **Lower Mountain Fork River Special Regulations**

#### **Trout Regulations:**

- Brown trout (Entire Stream) - Daily limit: one (1); size limit: 20-inch minimum.

- Rainbow trout - Daily limit: six (6) combined from Red and Blue Zones. See Detailed Zone regulations below.

### **Special Regulations by Zone:**

**Blue Zone:** (From the Broken Bow Reservoir spillway downstream to the Lost Creek diversion structure; from the first Hwy 259A scenic bridge downstream to the State Park Dam; and from the mouth of Rough Branch Creek downstream to Hwy 70 bridge):

- Rainbow trout – Daily limit: six (6); no minimum size limit.
- Use of bait and barbed hooks is permitted.

**Red Zone:** (From the Lost Creek diversion structure downstream to the first Hwy. 259A scenic bridge, including the Lost Creek channel; and from the State Park Dam downstream to the mouth of Rough Branch Creek):

- Rainbow trout – Daily limit: one (1); Size limit: 20 – inch minimum.
- Possession of any trout less than 20- inches is prohibited.
- Use of bait or barbed hooks is prohibited in the Red Zone. Fishing is restricted to barbless hooks, artificial flies and artificial lures only.

For more details on the regulations and license requirements, check out the [General Trout Regulations Beavers Bend State Park and the 2012 Oklahoma Fishing Guide, \[http://www.willifedepartment.com/laws\\\_regs/2012\\\_fishing\\\_guide.pdf\]\(http://www.willifedepartment.com/laws\_regs/2012\_fishing\_guide.pdf\)](http://www.willifedepartment.com/laws_regs/2012_fishing_guide.pdf).

### **What to Bring:**

**Waders, Long Johns, Wading Boots with Felt Bottoms or studded rubber soles, Wading Staff, and Net:** The water is cold year round plus we are visiting in February so dress accordingly. It will most likely be cold so dress in layers so you can ‘shed’ some clothes as it warms during the day. You’ll need long johns or fleece undergarments, gloves, and a warm hat as well. The rocks are slippery and felt bottoms or rubber soles with studs are a must. Make sure you have a wading staff and USE IT! This is a great time of year for fishing so be sure and include a net for landing your monster. Waders and boots may be rented from the local fly shops.

**Rod and line size:** A 5-6 weight is normal for this river but you can also use 3-4 weight fly rod for a bit more action with smaller fish. Normal leader is a 9’ 4-6x with matching tippet. Shorter leader may be beneficial in lower water.

**Streamers:** Olive Woolly Bugger, with/without bead head size 8-10. All white and black/olive are also good. White or silver/white minnow style and white Zonker #6 long. Sheila Anderson’s olive Slayer has always been a winner.

**Nymphs:** Prince, Pheasant Tail w/ or w/o bead (flash back OK too), Gold rib hares ear, Brassie, Copper John w/ or w/o legs, Red fox squirrel, are all working standards. All of these in size 14 – 18.

**Midges:** In red, pearl, black, # 20-22, Soft hackle in orange and olive are good colors.

**Dry Fly:** Parachute Adams #14-16, Caddis in tan or gray # 12-14, Blue Wing Olive # 18.

**Attractors:** San Juan worm in tan, chartreuse # 14-16, Egg pattern in pink or orange (use both as an attractor on a double dropper rig) # 14 – 18.

**Guides and Shops:**

- Three Rivers Fly Shop: <http://www.threeriversflyshop.com/> (580) 241-5644 Jesse and Linda King are great supporters of TWFF. Members have enjoyed Jesse's guide service in past years. WEB Site has stream conditions and Fishing Reports. Jesse will be conducting a 2-day "Fly Fishing for Beginners" class on Feb 18-19. Cost for this class is \$300. Last checked the class was almost full so call now to check availability.
- Beavers Bend Fly Shop: <http://www.beaversbendflyshop.com/> (580) 494-6071 owner Sid Ingram. Guides are available through the shop. Located on the river inside the park.
- Rob Woodruff Guide Service <http://flyfishingfork.com/> (902) 967-2665. His Fishing Entomology class should not be missed by anyone looking for better understanding of the bugs in the water.
- Chris Johnson Living Waters Fly Fishing . <http://www.livingwatersflyfishing.com> (512) 828-3474.

**Oklahoma Wildlife Department Trout Stocking Schedule:**

[http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout\\_stock\\_schedule.htm](http://www.wildlifedepartment.com/fishing/trout_stock_schedule.htm)

The department is currently scheduled to stock the Lower Mountain Fork River on Feb 9<sup>th</sup>.

**R.S.V.P.:**

DON'T DELAY – Send an email to [BrokenBowCoordinator@twiff.net](mailto:BrokenBowCoordinator@twiff.net) when your lodging reservations are confirmed so we can plan for our activities and meal. Let us know where you are staying too. Also please indicate your mobile phone number and if you wish to allow us to release this contact info to other attendees.

**Directions to Secluded acres**

Drive North out of Broken Bow on Highway 259. You will pass the Main or South entrance (Highway 259A) to Beaver Bend State Park. Hochatown Country Lodge and Three River Fly Shop are on your left. Continue on 2.3 miles and just after the North or Dam road entrance, you will see Secluded Acres Country Store and RV Park on your left.

Go into the store and check in.

## **About Living Waters Fly Fishing's Clinics**

- Each clinic will be taught on the river.
- Each clinic is \$20 per person or just \$50 total if you sign up for all 3 clinics.
- Class size will be limited to maximum of 20 people per clinic.
- In the event of high demand, all three clinics can be offered Sat. and Sun.
- Clinics will range from 2-3 hours in duration with fishing time included.
- Each clinic is designed to increase your knowledge base of each technique.
- You are encouraged to ask questions in every clinic whenever you have one.
- You will see on the water demonstrations of every technique.
- **You will have the opportunity to try the techniques yourself with Chris Johnson as your personal coach during the clinic!**

## **What To Bring To Each Clinic**

- Yourself
- Fly Rod/Reel with Leader Attached (7.5-9ft, 4X-5X)
- Wear Waders/Boots
- Notepad/pen for taking notes if you wish
- Vest, Wading Staff, Flies, Leaders, Tippet, etc... -- Come dressed and ready to fish!

## **Fast Water Trout Clinic**

One of the best ways to catch more trout is to target the fish that are missed by other anglers. Trout aren't afraid of holding in and near white water, but fly fishers are often remiss in targeting the fish that reside in such fast flowing currents. This clinic is designed to help build confidence in fishing these productive holding spots and equip you with the knowledge of how to do so effectively. We will discuss the following topics in the clinic:

- Rigging for Fast Water -- How to ensure fast water success
- Reading the Water -- Learn where the trout hide
- Fly Selection -- Choosing the right flies for the job
- Presentations -- Learn how to effectively fish fast water
- Wading Safety and Precautions -- How not to float your hat
- Playing/Landing Fish in White Water -- How to quickly land fish in white water

The clinic will be taught on the water and each topic will be discussed as well as demonstrated. There will be ample time for questions and at anytime during the clinic you are welcomed and encouraged to interject with your questions. The goal of this clinic is to equip you to effectively fish what I consider the most overlooked, yet most productive water on the river -- Fast Water!

## **Nymph Fishing Clinic**

It has been said that trout feed up to 90% of the time on subsurface prey. That being said, nymph fishing is what I consider to be the MOST effective way to fish for trout under the widest array of conditions. Nymph fishing is taught many different ways but in my years of fishing and guiding, I have found some very foundational factors that contribute to my nymph fishing success. This clinic will take you from rigging to fishing and will cover every step along the way. We will cover topics such as:

- Rigging for Success -- Leaders, Tippet, Split Shot, Indicators, Dropper Length -- we'll cover it all!
- The Foundational Elements of Nymphing -- Depth, Flies, and Presentation - and their importance!
- Nymph Fishing Presentations/Techniques -- On the water demos of casts, mends, and presentations.
- Reading the Water -- How and Where to find trout in any stretch of water!
- Fly Selection for the LMFR -- Find out what flies we use for the nymphing the LMFR

By the close of this clinic, you will be armed and dangerous from a trout's point of view! The clinic will be taught on the water and each topic will be discussed as well as demonstrated. We want to show you how to nymph fish effectively and how to achieve maximum success! We will take the time to walk you through every step and there will be plenty of time for questions as well!

## **Dry Fly Fishing Clinic**

Dry fly fishing is without a doubt the most exciting way to fly fish for trout and nothing beats seeing a fish take your fly. However, dry fly fishing tailwaters, like the Lower Mountain Fork, can be tricky -- but not impossible in the least! While nymph fishing will still catch more fish in most instances on tailwater fisheries, dry flies catch more than their fair share of trout! This clinic is designed to show you how to effectively select, cast, and present dry flies in any situation. Discussion and demonstration topics will include:

- Rigging 101 -- How to select the right line, leader, and tippet for dry flies
- Reading the Water -- Where to find trout that will readily take dries
- Casting and Presentations -- Learn dry fly casts and presentations that will catch you more trout!
- Fly Selection -- How to choose the right fly for the job!
- Rising vs. Non Rising -- how to present dry flies to both types of trout.

The clinic will be taught on the water and each topic will be discussed as well as demonstrated. You will be taught the where, when, how, and whys of dry fly fishing for trout in this clinic. We are confident that you will leave the clinic with a very good dry fly fishing knowledge base and skill set. You too can experience what many consider to be the ultimate experience in fly fishing for trout -- watching a fish rise and take your dry fly!