

SSFF Garden Hackle



Sept 2014 Issue 9 Copyright

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SEPT. PROGRAM

Mike Sturza from the Lost Creek Fly Shop in Onalaska will give a presentation on the Cowlitz River, Searun Cutthroat and Tiger Muskie fishing. Plan to attend.

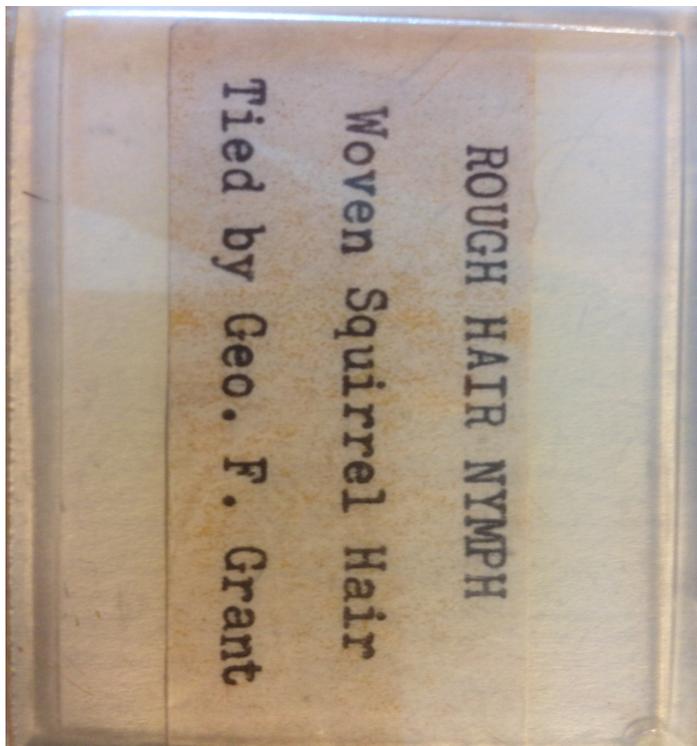
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Rough Hair Nymph

By
Gene Rivers

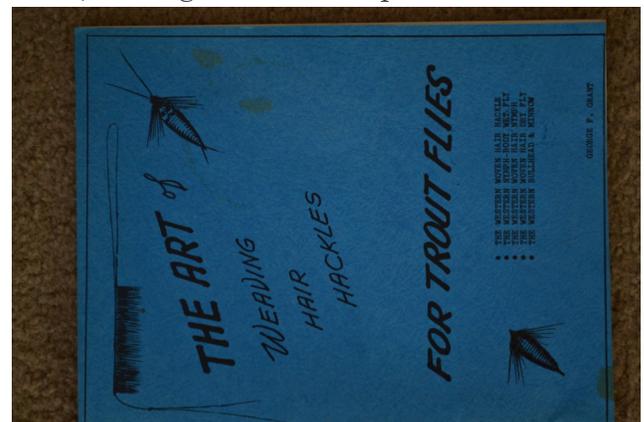
A Classic Fly tied by George F. Grant



This fly is about as “buggy” as a fly can get. The one in the photo was tied by George F. Grant. I picked it up years ago in West Yellowstone at Bud Lilly’s Fly

Shop.

George Grant was a wigmaker, among other things, and had elaborate ways of weaving both fur and feathers that are not often known or used by current fly tiers. The process is too time consuming and tedious for most modern tiers. His book, *The Art of Weaving Hair Hackles for Trout Flies*, is long since out of print.



Occasionally a copy may be obtained on the secondary market. In it George describes the detailed and meticulous process used to weave hackles and bodies.

Continued.

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Rough hair nymph—continued.

Mr. Grant's is a time consuming process, and not one that lends itself to production tying of flies. Hence, one would not stumble across any hand tied fly of this quality in a trip to your favorite fly shop. Notice the neat and efficient head tied on a beautiful Limerick hook. The fur is red squirrel, which is common in Montana and the Rockies where Mr. Grant lived.

When I showed this fly to a trouting friend of mine who understood what went into this pattern and knew George personally, he commented "You have history there!" George once told my friend that the stiff hair hackles allowed him to fish nymphs like this in water where softer hackled flies would get hung up on rock and branches, but the stiff hair hackles prevented this to some extent.

My friend borrowed the fly to photograph. His photos appropriately enough were taken with the fly mounted in an antique vise.

A trout would obviously see this fly as dinner. I view it as a piece of art entwined with a lot of history and thought SSFF members might enjoy seeing the pattern and learning a little about an essentially lost and forgotten skill in fly tying.

What do you think this fly imitates?

Gene Rivers



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Education

By Eddie Simons

I have seen the sign at Capitol Lake and a number of boats on the lower Nisqually. That can only mean one thing...The salmon are here! I know some of you have been following them down the Puget Sound, but they are now entering the rivers in the area. For great viewing opportunities, you can watch them enter Capitol Lake at the 5th Street Bridge, or head up to Tumwater Falls Park to see them stacked up below any of the falls. Last year, I saw what appeared to be two Chinook below the lower falls, guarding a redd. There were at least three cutthroat trying for a tasty meal. Let's see if we can view something similar this season.

Hot Dog Social

This is a monthly event for those who do not want to cook their own dinner and also an opportunity to support the club. Soda and water are also available to drink. Cost is \$5.

One great way to learn a little more about fishing a particular body of water or a specific species of fish, is to spend a day fishing with a guide. Pay attention to the fly selection, where to cast, weather and water conditions, and any other little tidbit you can pick up. After that great experience, put in the time on the water yourself.

Use a journal to document every trip, not only the successful ones. After a while, you may start to see patterns (not just fly patterns). Over time, you may become an expert yourself.

Club Brochure

By Eddie Simmons

Please do not forget to send me any fishing pictures you would like to include in the new club brochure. Plus, I would like everyone to answer one simple question. Why are you a member of the South Sound Fly Fishers? Is it the Programs? Conservation? Education? Hot dog social? Let me know so I can highlight our good points. Send the answer and pictures to me at trout.fly.hunter@gmail.com

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Raffle Report

Thank you; to all the club members who participate in the club's monthly raffle and to all of you who donate raffle items or fill fly boxes. We are looking forward to even more interesting and useful raffle prizes in the coming months. By the way, we have some empty fly boxes to be filled...fly tiers, please see me at the back of the room at our September meeting.

Sound Fly Fishers Annual Picnic

The club's Annual Picnic was at the Fire Station on Tuesday August 19th (our regular meeting day and time), and Don Harold had a "Special Raffle" with a CASH Prize which was won by Terra Hegy, a new member. As I have said in the past "you can't win unless you participate". Congratulations Terra, and thank you for supporting the club.

John Sabo

Treasurer's Creel By Dave Field

At the September board meeting your board gave the funding go-ahead for more study of the Coastal Cutthroat Trout in the South Sound. Earlier research led by SSFF member Joe Jaquet identified at least three different populations of Cutthroat trout in the south sound. The current research will help determine the reproduction and migratory patterns of these fish. The research focuses on the McClane, Kennedy and Skookum Creeks and the adjacent inlets of Eld, Totten and Skookum.

Compared to salmon, relatively little is known about sea run cutthroat trout. WDFW wants to better understand these fish in the south sound. The results of this research study will give fisheries biologists much more scientific information on these natives. The recent Fish Brewing fundraisers, growler sales (thank you Ryan Haseman) and other fundraising for the club's Coastal Cutthroat Conservation Fund (thank you Don Freeman and John Sabo) provides the money the club is donating towards this research. Thank you to all SSFF members who participated in these various fundraising events on behalf of Coastal Cutthroat in the South Sound.

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2015 NORTHWEST YOUTH CONSERVATION AND FLY FISHING ACADEMY

by Mike Clancy

Once again we are preparing for another Youth Conservation and Fly Fishing Academy to be held June 22-28, 2015 at Gwinwood Community Center on Hicks Lake in Lacey, WA. The Staff will be contacting over 50 dedicated volunteers to contribute their time for the success of the Academy and **for** the kids. This Academy is all about the girls and boys, 12-16 years old, to teach them the basics of fly fishing and conservation. The event is one full week with the staff and youth living at the Gwinwood Center and boarding in cabins. All meals are provided. Students need to bring their personal belongings, i.e., sleeping bags, pillows, rubber boots, etc. All fishing gear and fly tying equipment is provided, however, students may bring their own fishing gear.

The event is supported by WCTU and WSCIFFF and hosted by members of South Sound FF, Olympia Chapter TU, and Puget Sound Fly Fishers of Tacoma.

The cost to each student is still \$275, but sponsorships are available through TU Chapters, FFF fly clubs and private donations. No applicant will be turned away because of lack of money.

Applications will be accepted starting January 1, 2015 until April 15, 2015. Applications may be downloaded from our website – www.nwycffa.org, via email to mtclancy39@comcast.net or call 360-753-1259. Each applicant must submit an essay explaining why THEY want to attend The Academy. A letter of recommendation is required from a school teacher or counselor.

We are very proud of The Academy, this has been a life changing experience for many of our youth.

THE YOUTH OF TODAY ARE THE GUARDIANS OF THE FUTURE FOR OUR
SPORT OF FLYFISHING

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SSFF 2014 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President: Tom Bolender tombolender@comcast.net

Past President: Don Freeman

Treasurer: Dave Field D_W_Field@hotmail.com

Membership: Don Harold don@gophish.com

Secretary: Dave Bryant granbry@yahoo.com

Education: Eddie Simmons trout.fly.hunter@gmail.com

Outings: Terry West Terrywest1@comcast.net

Programs: Walt Dohring cynwalt@wave.com

Fundraising: John Sabo chrisonquince@comcast.net

Newsletter: Gene Rivers acu4pets@hotmail.com

WEB SITE www.southsoundflyfishers.org

SSFF PO BOX 2792, Olympia, WA 98507

General Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every month except December, starting at 6:30pm.

Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month starting at 6:00 pm.

Meeting are held at the North Olympia Fire Station (Boston Harbor Fire Station)
5046 Boston Harbor Road NE, Olympia WA

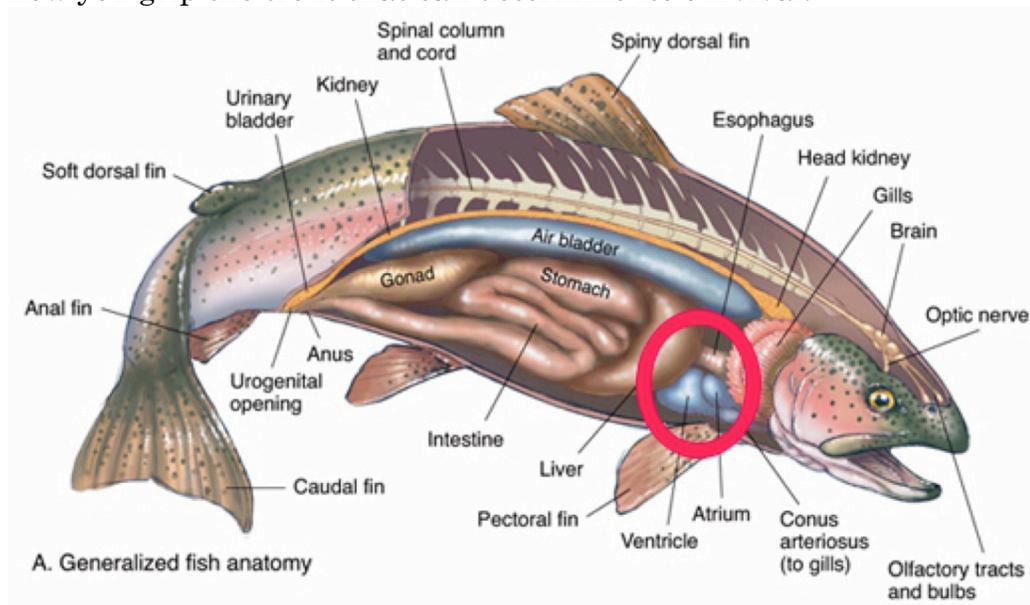
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Submitted by Don Harold

How to Kill Trout Quickly on the Fly

Posted on [January 5, 2014](#) by [Caddisman](#) under [Conservation](#), [Kennedy Brothers](#)
[Trout Dying To Get a Good Photo](#)

We all should know the rules for releasing a trout with the best chance of survival, but there is one rule that is almost never included in articles about successful releasing. So, you have landed the fish as quickly as possible to limit capture stress and you are about to pick up the fish and get a few 'grip and grin' shots before release. But, grip and grin, can all too often turn into grip and kill, and it is all down to where and how you grip the trout that can determine its survival.



Bish and Fish go over basics to hold trout and ensure proper catch and release techniques. Have look at the anatomical drawing above showing the main internal structure and components of a trout. Take particular notice where the heart is (red outline) – between and under the gills and liver, just above the Pectoral fins.

These three organs, heart, gills and liver are very susceptible to damage, although not always immediately obvious, unless the damage is very severe leading to immediate death. A fish subject to external pressure to the heart and other organs may swim away on release, but many die soon after.

Gripping a fish in the pectoral area using inward force and squeezing pressure will compress the heart and maybe the liver and gills. The outcome for the fish is not going to be good, even if it does manage to swim away on release.