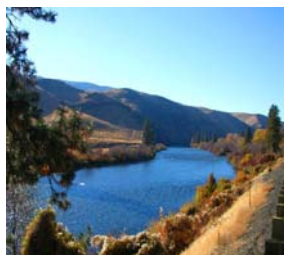


Fall, 2004

Special points of interest:

- **Fall Outlook**
- **Real-Time Weather**
- **Alaskan Chinook**
- **River Etiquette**
- **News at Red's**



Inside this issue:

River Etiquette **2**

The Drift Boat Option **3**

“Bug for a Bag” **3**

Bootlace Tips **3**

New Gear **4**

Alaskan Adventure **4**

Canyon News



Fall Fishing Forecast

By Rod Griffin

This summer has really flown by, and here we are at the end of August bumping up against fall. Labor Day weekend traditionally marks the beginning of the “Flip Flop,” although this year we are already seeing some gradual decline in the river flows. By mid-September flows should be down to 1,000 cfs. These lower flows will allow unlimited access to wade fisherman and one man pontoon boats, as well as providing enough water for drift boats and rafts. This is the time of year for shorter floats, big dries, small dries, emergers, nymphs, and even some streamers at times.

Both dry fly fishing and nymphing should be very good this fall. It is one of our favorite times to fish the Yakima; in fact, October is rated as one of our “top 3”

months of the year. We have seen good Summer Stonefly activity in August, and we should see even more of these insects emerging. Baetis (Blue Winged Olives) nymphs and terrestrials such as bees, ants, and beetles are also prime targets for trout this time of year. Grasshoppers will still be around, and we should even start seeing some October Caddis.

The middle of October is prime time for Blue Winged Olives, Mahogany Duns, and October Caddis. We have every reason to believe that the fall Blue Winged Olives and October Caddis will once again team up to provide some very exciting dry fly opportunities. Should Mother Nature provide us warmer temperatures this year, we could have decent dry fly fishing into mid Novem-

ber.

Aside from having some great fishing this fall, it is just a pleasant time of year to be on the river. There is plenty of canyon wildlife to see such as Big Horn Sheep and Bald Eagles, and the beautiful fall colors are second to none. We are expecting this fall to be as good as it gets, and we invite you to share in this experience with us.



New!—Real Time River & Weather Conditions

By Steve Joyce

It’s amazing how many times we answer the phone and hear, “I was thinking about coming over, and wonder what the river and weather is like in the Canyon”. Another common call is a request for wind conditions, since it is often blustery further to the east, or upstream in the foothills and upper canyon area. Fortunately, the weather in the Canyon is often much drier than surrounding areas, and we are often sheltered from the occasional windy conditions to the north and east. As a result, we tend to enjoy our own micro-climate, unique to the area.

Rather than average nearby forecasts (Cle Elum, Ellensburg, and/

or Yakima for example), we’ve installed our own on-site professional weather station and web cam to keep you informed of exactly what is going on right in the heart of the Yakima River Canyon.

To access this feature, simply log on our website at:

www.redsflyshop.com

Click on the “Weather Station” bar, and you’ll have current, accurate weather, a real-time picture of the Canyon, and access to current river flows. Of course, for the latest tips and recommendations, feel free to drop by or give us a call at (509) 929-1802.





“... if you are kind and respectful to other anglers on the river, you will catch more fish!”



River Etiquette

By Steve Joyce

Perhaps you've been wading and had another wade fisherman get too close to you, or even a boat drift over the water you're casting into. Maybe you've been floating and had another vessel cut in front of you and then slow down or even anchor up. Possibly you've been in a boat anchored up only to have a wade fisherman walk out from the bank and start fishing into your pod. Any angler who spends much time floating and/or wading (and most anglers do both at times!) a productive river has witnessed or been involved in some sort of conflict due to poor river etiquette. No? You've never been offended by "unsportsmanlike" conduct? Then you should probably read this because you may be the one who's doing it! Regardless of the conflict, the best way of dealing with it is to smile and let them pass, or pick up and find a new piece of water.

I know it's hard to keep your mouth shut sometimes; but I've tried it both ways, and I can attest that the angry feeling passes quickly and the perceived "damage" of the action is nearly unnoticed by the fish. Speaking up and getting into a verbal confrontation negatively impacts the experience for both parties involved and can ruin the entire day. So, we let the ill mannered action pass quietly, justifying it by

telling ourselves they're inexperienced and will learn appropriate behavior with experience. There is room for both bank anglers and floaters to coexist in an enjoyable setting. So for all practical purposes, the following rules and guidelines have been established to make all of our days on the water safe, peaceful, and enjoyable.

1. Anchored boats and wade fishermen have the right of way. Pass anchored boats and wade fisherman on the wide side of the river, pausing casting when doing so.
2. Keep your boat out of the water other anglers are fishing whenever possible. (NOTE: some water we may wade fish could be the only safe passageway for boats to travel – if this is the case, we need to be understanding. It is not fair to expect a floater to drift into a dangerous or shallow channel to avoid another angler).
3. The middle of the river is deemed the safe passageway for all floaters (fishing and recreational). Do not anchor or stand in the middle of the river unless fishing. Pull into an eddy or onto a shallow bar to change flies or take a break.
4. Give anchored boats and wade fishermen 30 yards on the upriver and downriver side before pulling back in when passing.
5. When passing another boat that

is moving down a bank, give them 100 yards before cutting back in. If the run is not 100 yards long, then you should keep pushing until you get to the next run.

6. Don't just pack your litter out with you, but also make it a point to clean up after others.
7. When in doubt, ask the person who was there first if they mind if you anchor up and fish, or come in and start wading below them, or get out of the boat and fish there, or float through that channel, etc...

Well, we've addressed the most obvious dilemmas we can find ourselves in on the river. I know it's a lot to think about and that in the heat of the moment, we get focused on fishing and sometimes lose track of where we are, or where someone else is fishing. Of course, we're all going to be out there sometime when Cousin Ignatz is rowing the boat. He doesn't know what oar to pull, let alone give a guy 30 yards of buffer. However, he knows he isn't doing things correctly, and he's much more likely to educate himself and want to be a part of fly fishing and conservation if we are kind to him and set an example for him to follow. Besides, I'm a believer in good karma, and if you're kind and respectful to other anglers on the river, you will catch more fish!



The Drift Boat Option

As many of you know, Red's introduced Clackacraft Drift Boats for rental on the Yakima river three years ago. The concept was simple—offer brand new, fully outfitted drift boats complete with a shuttle service.

The response has been tremendous, allowing a wide range of fisherman to experience the fun and success of fishing from a Drift Boat on the Yakima. Our current fleet of five boats is offered year round, with full day rates of only \$139.00—including your shuttle.

Several customers, after experienc-

ing the quality and capabilities of a Clackacraft, decided to purchase one. Based on the number of new sales we provided, the factory suggested we become a dealer.

Red's Fly Shop is now a Clackacraft Drift Boat Outlet. In addition to our new (each year) rental fleet, we have brand new, fully equipped Clackacraft drift boats in stock and ready for purchase and use the same day. All sales transactions are processed through Clackacraft, allowing for factory direct pricing. Also, buying a boat off our lot allows you to bypass the 8 week lead time—and save

money on freight! Our current inventory contains a 2004 16' Low profile model with pedestal seats. The color scheme on this boat is sage hull with forest green stripe and black back. \$6,295.00 includes the trailer, anchor, and oars. Give us a call, or send us an e-mail if you have any questions. We're proud to join the Clackacraft family of dealers.



“Bug for a Bag” — cleaning up the river

September 1st marks the beginning of the “Bug for a Bag” deal sponsored by Red's Fly Shop. For the month of September, we will give any customer a free fly and a garbage bag, if they make the commitment to filling the garbage sack up with litter collected from the river corridor during their day of fishing. As the river drops this time of year, much of the trash that got away from summertime traffic becomes exposed and accessible to pick up. The earlier we

can get the river picked up this Fall, the more enjoyable it will be for all of us.

We're blessed by a unique and wonderful ecosystem here. A little extra effort goes a long way in maintaining a pristine environment.

One free fly per customer per visit - no limit on number of visits.



“A little extra effort goes a long way in maintaining a pristine environment”

The Bootlace Tip

By Richard Leider

Do your bootlaces self-untie as frequently as mine? In the time I walked from my truck to the river's edge, my laces would often unwind themselves completely, as if the river gremlins had snuck out and neatly yanked on the ends.

The problem can usually be traced to an incorrectly tied knot, the now-omnipresent round, synthetic laces, or a combination of the two. The correct knot can solve this problem.

The first knot to consider is the standard knot—the one many of us

grew up with. A correct tying will include the final wrap moving clockwise around the first loop. Going counterclockwise (a common approach) will result in an insecure knot that won't hold as well. A secret trick for strengthening the hold of the standard knot is to add a second wrap before tucking in the last loop. The resulting knot will hold up well to fast water or rugged hiking, yet unties easily when required.

A second knot to consider is the Freedom Knot™. Slightly more difficult than the standard knot, it

involves creating two loops and threading them through the center.



For more information, visit: www.fieggen.com/shoelace, or www.freedomknot.com. Secure footwear will make your journey in the river or up the hills an enjoyable and safe one



FROM THE BANKS OF THE YAKIMA RIVER

Milepost 14
Canyon Road
PO Box 186
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

Phone: 509 929-1802
Email: info@redsflyshop.com
www.redsflyshop.com

Note!

To receive our newsletters, contact us at:
info@redsflyshop.com

New Equipment

Temple Fork Outfitters are the rods everyone is talking about! Every Fly fishing magazine in the country right now is running articles showcasing Temple Fork as the best buy on the market. The quality and performance these rods offer at a price you can afford make it a great rod not just for beginners, but also experienced anglers looking to add a backup rod or a nymphing rod. However, once you fish this rod, it may not be the backup anymore!

These rods come with an unconditional lifetime warranty. For a limited time, we are offering both the two piece Lefty Kreh Signature Series and the 4 piece Professional Series, set up with an Okuma Sierra reel (featuring a disc drag with all metal components) and loaded with nylon trout backing and a Scientific Anglers weight forward floating line for the following special prices:

3 wt. , 4wt. , 5 wt., and 6 wt. - 8'6" or 9' 2 Piece and 4 Piece rod with Okuma Sierra reel, Scientific Anglers WF Floating line, and 20 lb nylon backing - JUST ADD WATER! \$197.95

5 wt. or 6 wt. - 8'6" or 9' Signature Series 2 piece with Okuma Sierra reel, Scientific Anglers WF floating line, and 20 lb nylon backing - JUST ADD WATER! \$147.95

The staff at Red's is committed to maintaining the legacy of fly fishing. Periodically, Red's will feature an article by a young fly fisher, recognizing his or her participation in our sport.

Alaskan Adventure

By Charlie Robins

Charlie is 15 years old, and just finished his sophomore year at Seattle Prep. He has been fly-fishing for years, and hopes to guide some day.

We flew into Quinhagak, where the Kanetok River flows into the Bering Sea. We brought DEET and head nets in our carry-on bags. Once off the plane, guides in their jet sleds took us to the camp.

were in the river only a couple of hours before meeting up with our flies.

The camp is well built. Each tent has two beds, with mosquito nets. The bathrooms are porta-potties and there are heated shower tents, which feel great after a full day fishing. The activity tent has games, darts, and a great assortment of fly tying equipment. I tied some "wild creations" that got a laugh from my dad, yet a nice pull from some kings! Robert the chef puts on an impressive spread, better than a restaurant.

You can go trout fishing as well, right outside of camp, or take a day trip to the Arolik River, where you won't see another soul, and likely see lots of huge spotted rainbows.

Alaska West, the outfitter for Charlie's adventure is under new ownership with Andrew Bennett. We wish Andrew and his staff all the best for continued great adventures.

I am looking forward to next year!



The guides were great fun, and great instructors too. By the end of the trip, I could spey cast farther than my dad. We would fish all day until dinner. After feasting, we had free time to either fish (bright daylight past midnight!), sleep, tie flies, read, whatever you want. We managed to catch a lot of nice kings, even "doubled up" with my dad a couple of times. My dad released a 46-pounder that we all hope reproduces thousands! The fish were bright chrome, still with sea lice. They