

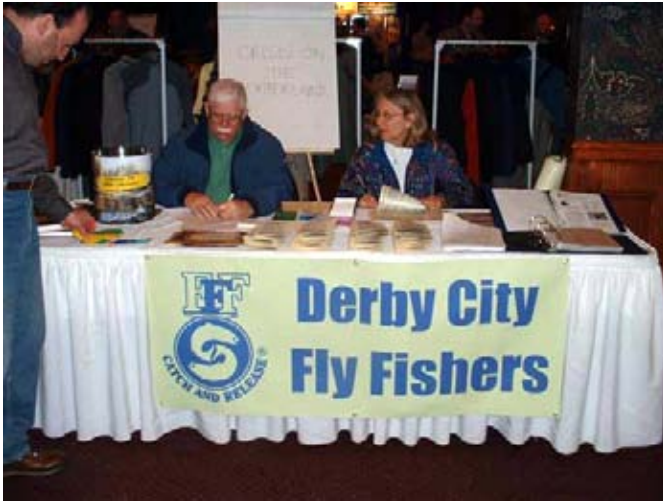


DERBY CITY FLY FISHERS NEWSLETTER

Volume 2, Issue 3 Piper Turner, editor pturner@sunsetsettings.com

March 2005

DCFF gives back!



John Naiser is signing up new member, Steve Gillenwater, the manufacturer of the Gilly Minnow while Carla Rauen looks on.

BUFF show a success!

We came, we bought, we ate, we learned, and we had a great time! Stats: 19 attended our first outing of 2005, 85 entered our drawings for 2 fly fishing books, & 22 new requests to be added to our email list.

3rd Wednesday - monthly meeting, 4th Wednesday - fly tying.

All meetings are held at the Louisville Nature Center.

We welcome visitors to our meetings.

For more information about Derby City Fly Fishers, visit www.derbycityflyfishers.com.

Education



DCFF likes for its members to be involved with other clubs and organizations. Above DCFF member Jim Green teaches fly tying at a Trout Unlimited fly tying class.

Conservation



Fin clipping at the Wolf Creek hatchery with DCFF members Bill Federhofer, Pat Carroll, Tom Otten, Jeff Adkins, Barry Morris and Larry Drake.

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DCFF President's Corner - Why Catch & Release?

By Larry Drake

The question is "How can a club that is an affiliated of the Federation of Fly Fishers be against catch & release?" Let it be understood that the Derby City Fly Fishers position on catch and release is the same as the Federation of Fly Fishers. Quoting from a publication of the Federation:

For over 35 years, The Federation of Fly Fishers has made "limit your kill, don't kill your limit" the major theme of their conservation effort.

The Federation of Fly Fishers and many other fish conservation organizations enthusiastically support "catch and release" because it works in many different situations. Dozens of scientific studies have been carried out. These studies include trout, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, muskie, walleye, Atlantic salmon, steelhead and even bluegill. Based on these studies, more and more conservation-minded anglers of both fresh and saltwater fish have embraced this simple, but very effective practice.

Why we need catch & release:

1. Every year there are more anglers with better equipment.
2. Every year more fish habitat is threatened or destroyed.
3. Every year overfishing reduces fish populations faster than hatcheries can grow them.

And here is some of the research:

- For lakes and streams from New York, Wisconsin, Arkansas, Texas to Michigan and even Alaska, size or bag limits do not prevent depletion of fish in popular waters.
- Larger faster-growing fish are killed first. Fewer fish and smaller fish are the result.
- While catch-and-release cannot correct seriously polluted and degraded waters, for most species, from largemouth bass to billfish, fishing quality improves - often dramatically.
- Contrary to earlier ideas, limited kill even can help build bigger and more numerous panfish, like bluegill.
- All anglers, whether they spin, bait or fly fish can preserve more and larger fish for future generations by practicing catch-and-release.
- Catch-and-release fishing regulations can be strictly non-kill or they can be combined with size and bag limits.

Scientists from Idaho to New York to Wisconsin,

"Mortality with catch and release is very low!" Some avoid catch and release because they think "most released fish die." This simply is not true. Research on waters from Idaho to New York to Maine has repeatedly show that "over 95% of all fish hooked on artificial flies and lures live to be caught again another day." This includes bass, trout, salmon, pike, walleye and even panfish. By contrast, with live or even dead natural bait, fish mortality is higher (near 50%), although many fish still survive.

American Sport fishing institute, 1987

"An ethical angler realizes that fishing is fun. Fishing pleasure is not measured by the heft of the stringer, but by the angling difficulty offered by the particular fish caught - and often released - in an aesthetically pleasing environment."

Lee Wulff, 1984

"Once upon a time, our wild trout fishing may have been the best in the world. Too many people took too many fish and the quality slumped. The private streams of the old world where fishing was limited to a few and the take low enough to give high quality fishing far surpassed it and represented good management. NO-KILL was America's answer to give the public of our country even finer fishing than the richest people of the world."

Roderick Haig-Brown, 1974

"The fisherman's enormous advantage in the matter of bag limits is that he can limit his killing without appreciably limiting his sport."

Are you interested in catching more fish and bigger fish? Adopt catch & release!

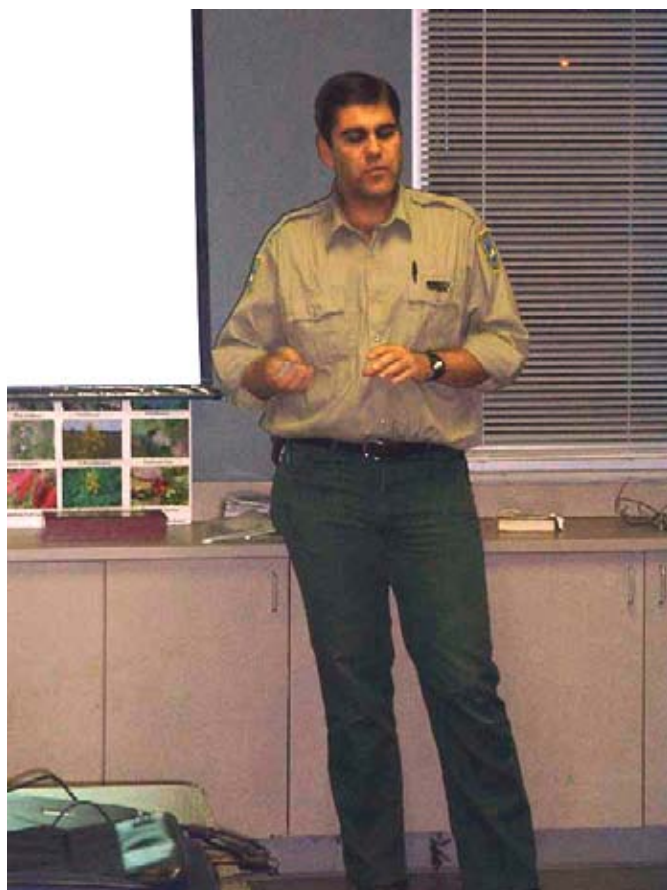
We will be forming a Friends of the Cumberland Committee. Call Pat Carroll 502-314-8711 to volunteer.

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Attendance doubles!



Dave Dreves, Fisheries Research Biologist for the state of Kentucky, speaks at our February meeting.

Who says a little controversy is bad? We had 40 fly fishers come to hear about the 38,000 fins clipped the day before, the Cumberland River, and fishing journal. We will need to look for a larger meeting place if this keeps up!

Louisville Trout Unlimited has launched their website. See www.louisvilletu.org for more information.

Let's take it outside!



Eat, fish, and have fun!

We will be forming a committee to organize outdoor summer meetings. Several locations are under discussion and preliminary planning has been done. We want your input and help to make our summer meetings great. Call David Spanyer 502-454-5764 to volunteer.

SAVE THESE DATES:

- MARCH 2nd -7 p.m. - DCFF BOARD MEETING
- MARCH 5th - LEXINGTON TROUT UNLIMITED CONSERVATION BANQUET
- MARCH 3rd & 10th - ROD BUILDING CLASSES SIGN-UP REQUIRED
- MARCH 16th - 7 p.m. - DICK HAAS "WARM WATERS ELKHORN & OTHER SMALLMOUTH STREAMS"
- MARCH 18th - 20th - WATAUGA RIVER OUTING
- MARCH 23rd - 7 p.m. - FLY TYING