

# KLAMATH COUNTRY FLY CASTERS

SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

## An Evening of Education with a Colorado Guide: Duane Redford



Duane Redford, a professional fly fishing guide, spends most his days guiding on the South Platte River near Deckers, Colorado and on the Eagle River near Minturn, Colorado. He began his fly fishing career fishing the Rocky Mountain West, and has been toting a fly rod for better than four decades.

As a retired teacher and coach, Duane has a unique, systematic approach to the river that he has used as the basis of his guiding for the last twelve years. This systematic approach, derived from guiding countless days on highly pressured, technical waters, has been refined over time, and is easily understood.

Duane is a sought after national speaker, pro-staff lead for 8 Rivers Fly Rods, consultant for Hookhead apparel, signature tier for Montana Fly Company, and the author of The Fly Fishers' Playbook, Systematic Approach to Nymphing and Hidden in Plain View, Recognizing the Obvious and Exploiting the Obscure in Fly Fishing.

When he's not guiding, Duane spends his time teaching fly fishing classes, blogging, tying, speaking, and writing. When he's not teaching, writing or guiding, you'll find him on the river.

His latest presentation: *Hidden in Plain View, Recognizing the Obvious, Exploiting the Obscure*, delves into what the top 10% of anglers are seeing differently from the masses. It includes something for every level of angler from reading the obvious runs of the river to its subtle nuances; bug selection made simple, how to attain lively bugs in a dead drift, the X-Y-Z grids, the Fly Fisher's Formula, and tactics to get better now.



**CALENDAR**

Sep 18<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting at Elmer's Restaurant - Speaker: Duane Redford  
 Oct 16<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting at Elmer's Restaurant - Speaker: Craig Schuhmann  
 Nov 20<sup>th</sup> - Club Meeting at Elmer's Resturant - Speaker: TBD  
 Dec 18<sup>th</sup> - Club Christmas Party  
 Jan 15<sup>th</sup> - Fly Tying Demonstrations Led by Ralph Carestia

**OFFICERS AND BOARD**

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**THE KCFC MISSION STATEMENT**

We, the Klamath Country Fly Casters, out of a vital interest in the sport of fly fishing, do hereby join to promote fly fishing as a method of angling, to encourage youth to learn this method of angling, and to promote and participate in meetings to educate all persons in the many aspects of fly fishing as a sport. We agree to make every effort to protect and improve fishing resources in our area by encouraging the practice of catch and release fishing of wild, native fish and by supporting fly fishing organizations in other areas in the overall quest for improvement and perpetuity of fishing resources.

The members of the board of Klamath Country Fly Casters put forth this statement:

"We invite people to become board members of the Klamath Country Fly Casters who wish to promote a healthy and harmonious sense of collegial spirit within the environmental milieu of our board. We on the board choose to care for the well-being of board members, Club members, and for our fly fishing community. We ask those who want to be board members to practice positive intervention, to work harmoniously with other board members, and be willing to promote well-being amongst fellow members of the Klamath Country Fly Casters and our community."

**COMMITTEES**

Conservation: Mark Hereford	Monthly Raffle: Peg Edwards
Education Events: John Krueger	Newsletter, Budget &
FFI Liaison: Dale B Zemke	Communications: Dale B Zemke
Fly Casting Events: John Hyde	Outings: Jim Ricks
Fly Tying Events: Ralph Carestia	Programs: Bob Kingzett
Membership: Mark Kelley	Social Events & Auction: Lois Krueger
Mentoring: Dave Biddison	

Regular KCFC meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month, September through May, at Elmer's Restaurant, 3030 S. 6th Street, Klamath Falls. Dinner starts at 6:00 with the meeting beginning at 7:00. Board members, please be there at 5:00.

The KCFC website is: [www.klamathcountryflycasters.com](http://www.klamathcountryflycasters.com)



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** from Carol Ann Meadows

I was one of those kids who always looked forward to the start of school. Don't get me wrong, I loved summer vacation! But, sometime in early August, the novelty of unscheduled time began to wear off, and when the cicadas started buzzing a couple weeks later, I happily realized that soon I would be seeing all my friends and getting back in the routine of school days.



Now I find that's how I feel about the "routine" of monthly KCFC meetings beginning again. I look forward to seeing you all and hearing the stories of "what I did on summer vacation."

Even though we did not meet over the summer, KCFC was still in action. The Henley High School conservation project that we helped fund finished up and Mark Hereford, our Conservation Chair, brought a great proposal to the Board regarding our participation in upcoming projects on Agency Creek and Ranch Creek. Please look on following pages of this newsletter for more complete information.

As I write this, I learn that we will have a Club picnic this year! Very good news, indeed! Many thanks to the Kruegers for hosting the Club at their home on Saturday, September 8. (I'm sure Dale will print more details elsewhere in this newsletter.) I'm sorry Jack and I won't be there to share the fun; family plans are already made for that weekend.

Save this date: Thursday, October 18, 3:00 - 5:00 PM. This is the date and time that OIT will host the dedication ceremony for the "Gerda Hyde Environmental Sciences Watershed Lab." Gerda was an amazing force within our Club, the community, and especially OIT. Her positive outlook and legacy will live on through all the students who will study in this lab and will carry their knowledge out into the world. More details will be coming, but do mark your calendars!

As the song says, "See you in September!"

Carol



## Conservation Activity for the Club- It is a Year Round Effort:

**Our Club Donated \$2,000.00 toward this Project. If we need to provide a work party, the Board will announce it when and if the time comes!**

Agency Creek and Ranch Creek Large Wood and Spawning Gravel Project

### **Introduction**

Agency and Ranch Creeks are spring fed tributaries to Crooked Creek in the Wood River Valley in Fort Klamath. Ranch Creek was a spawning channel constructed for Redband Trout in 1997 and takes water from Agency Creek. Agency Creek was restored in 2003 with the focus of providing spawning habitat for Redband Trout. A dam that blocked fish passage was removed and the stream channel restored. Recent redd and adult Redband Trout spawning survey counts in Ranch Creek have declined significantly. Agency Creek and Crooked Creek have also experienced recent declining numbers as well. Most of these declines are likely due to drought from the years 2012 through 2015. Drought years might be more common in the future with recent climate change projections. Therefore, critical spawning and rearing habitat needs to be optimized. Ranch and Agency Creek are both one of the top spawning and juvenile rearing streams in the Klamath Basin for adfluvial Redband Trout. However, these habitats can be significantly improved to increase rearing capacity for Redband Trout fry, juveniles and spawning adults.

**Goal:** Increase Redband Trout Spawning Escapement in Ranch and Agency Creeks

**Objective 1:** Provide additional spawning habitat for Redband Trout in Ranch and Agency Creeks

**Objective 2:** Increase amount of cover for Redband Trout in Ranch and Agency Creek

### **Ranch Creek**

Habitat Restoration Proposal:

Wood and spawning gravel will be added to the entire length of Ranch Creek on the Root Ranch Property. Wood will focus on providing cover for all life stages of Redband Trout with emphasis towards the juvenile life stage. Wood will also be placed for cover of migrating and holding adult Redband Trout during the spawning period. Ranch Creek is a very small stream and flow is likely the limiting factor to attract large bodied adfluvial Redband Trout into the stream. Wood placement near the confluence with Crooked Creek will be a focus to give Redband Trout cover during migration to spawning habitat. Wood placement that provides cover for adfluvial Redband Trout spawners will improve survival and spawning success in Ranch Creek. Wood will be composed of small trees, tree tops and small root wads placed instream. Trees will be placed in an upstream orientation to collect organic drift. Most trees will be less than 15 feet in length and four to eight inches in diameter. Trees placed in the creek will be as complex as possible. Twenty pools are in need of wood in the entire project reach from the mouth to the start of the spawning



channel. Each pool will have 1 to 5 pieces of wood placed. Large wood will not be keyed into the bank and no digging will occur.

Spawning gravel will range in size from 3/8 to 2 inch diameter round river gravel. Spawning gravel will come from existing piles of gravel on the Root Ranch that was part of the 2003 Agency Creek Restoration. All wood and gravel will be placed by a low ground pressure rubber tracked excavator

Task 1: Place a total of 55 pieces of wood in 20 pools

Task 2: Place a total of 21 cubic yards of spawning gravel in all the pool tail outs.

### **Agency Creek**

Wood will be placed on Agency Creek throughout the entire length on the Root Ranch from Highway 62 downstream to the property boundary with the Thomas' Ranch. Spawning gravel will be added from the end of the 2003 Restoration to highway 62. Wood will be added to provide cover for all life stages of Redband Trout with specific emphasis for juvenile Redband Trout cover. All other methods will be the same as Ranch Creek.

Task 3- Place a total of 57 pieces of wood in 21 pools.

Task 4- Add 50 cubic yards of spawning gravel at new locations above restoration area

### **Request**

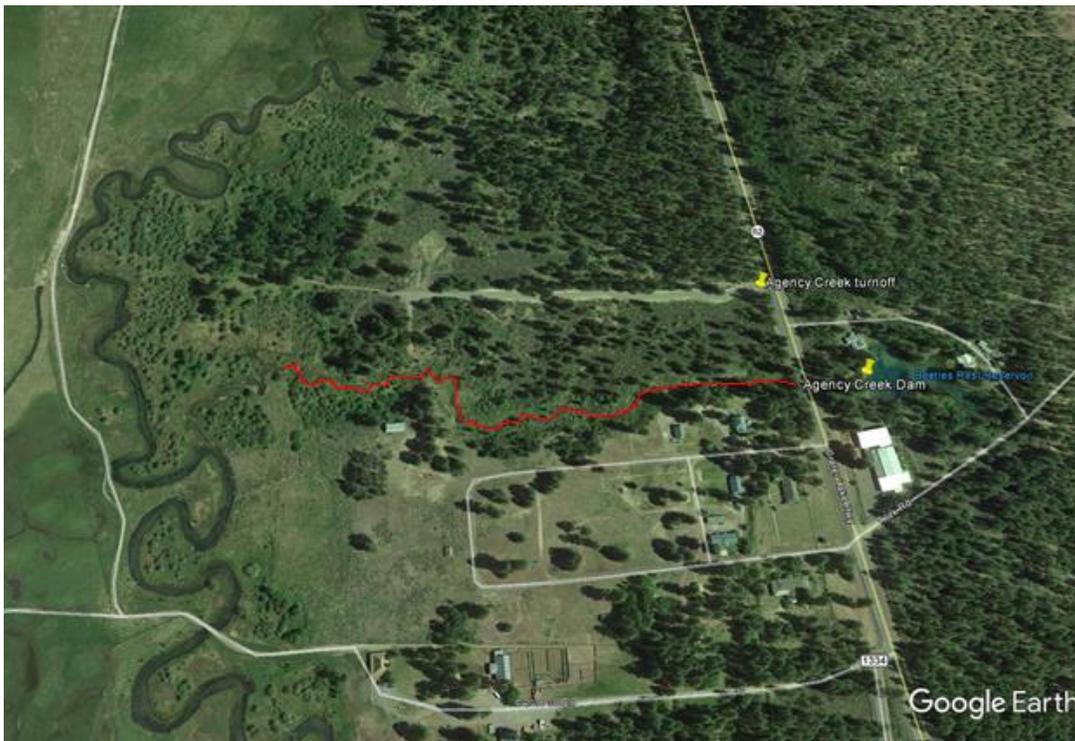
ODFW requests \$2000 from the Klamath Country Fly Casters Conservation account to fund placement of large wood and spawning gravel in Ranch and Agency Creeks. (Our Club provided the requested \$2,000.00). The contractor will use a rubber tracked excavator to place the wood and gravel. Klamath Country Fly Casters funding will be used for 20 hours of contractor time. This project will have direct benefit to the Redband Trout fisheries in the Wood River, Crooked Creek, Agency Lake, Upper Klamath Lake and Williamson River. ODFW will direct the project on the ground. The landowner will provide the contractor, some contractor costs, spawning gravel, and woody material. Trout Unlimited is also working with the Klamath Tribes to acquire additional funds for a larger project.



Ranch Creek (Crooked Creek) project reach on Root Ranch from confluence with Crooked Creek to USFS property Boundary.



Agency Creek Project reach on Root Ranch from property boundary with Thomas to Highway 62



**EVENT:** Henley High School students creating fish habitat

**Information:**

Henley High School engineering and marketing students teamed up to help juvenile redband trout in the Klamath Basin. About 90 students in both programs worked together on a project to fund and build new habitat structures.

“What we’re doing is creating habitat structures that the juvenile fish can hide in,” said Luke Ovgard, business teacher at Henley High. “If we can restore some of that habitat, it’s really going to change the way fish are going to survive and will improve survival rates for juvenile Redband trout.”

About 40 marketing students worked on fundraising, securing financial support from Klamath Country Fly Casters (Our Club donated \$1,000.00 for materials) and Go Green Initiative. They also engaged in public relations at Henley High and brought a biologist to speak to classes about the project. About 50 engineering students designed habitat structures and teamed up with the marketing students to present those ideas. Engineering students voted to chose the best of those designs and spent a week building.

“Everything had to be made of natural materials,” said Dr. Kristi Lebkowsky, engineering teacher. “No nails, no screws.

So, they attached things with wooden dowels, like dovetail joints. And they also used organic rope to attach some things.”

On Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, the students departed Henley High at 8:15 a.m. They toured Spring Creek before going on to Agency Creek, where they spent the day installing the habitats.



A reminder - there is a gathering of fly tyers at the Krueger Residence at 2880 Lakeshore Drive each Tuesday Morning from 10:00 AM to Noon. If you plan to attend, advise Lois Krueger of your intent and give her your email address so that she can keep you posted if the activity is not happening that day or any other pertinent information. You can reach her by phone at (541) 539-1555.

It is open to all levels of tyers - beginner to advanced - a gathering of individuals all willing to share knowledge and banter.



## Fishing with Club Members:

If you decide to go fishing and would like some company, take some club members fishing with you. Contact Jim Ricks at 541-205-3274 or [mtnestinor@gmail.com](mailto:mtnestinor@gmail.com) and give about 4 days' notice of the fishing event to provide time to get the word out. Leave Jim your telephone number or email so that others can contact you about going fishing with you. Jim will then see that the word of the event gets out in a club-wide email to announce your invitation to go fishing, and he will tell those interested to contact you directly.

## Reminder - the following offer PAID MEMBERS of the Klamath Country Fly Casters Club discounts when making a purchase

Parker's Rod & Gun Rack at 7364 S 6<sup>th</sup> St offers a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented

The Ledge at 369 S 6th St offers a 10% discount on purchases when a current club membership card is presented.

Timeflies Outfitters at 541-539-1505 or [jk@timefliesoutfitters.com](mailto:jk@timefliesoutfitters.com) offers up to a 15% discount on fly tying materials & tools as well as all fly fishing gear & flies, to current members of the Club





## Finding and Spotting Fish:

### LOOK AROUND

Nearby banks provide clues to the bottom of the river or lake. If you see big rocks and stones on the bank, the stream bottom nearby is probably similar and good holding water for fish. Move on if the banks are silty. Steep banks often mean deep water; gradually sloping banks often mean shallow water that deepens gradually.

### FOCUS ON THE FOAM

Foam lines moving downstream signal current lanes that carry food to fish and are always a good place to start fishing.

### BE FIRST TO THE FISH

This doesn't mean that you should rush to fish a particularly good pool before your buddy gets his rod rigged up, but if you are fishing behind another angler, especially a careless one, you may never see a fish - they will all have been spooked.

### FISH FROM THE OUTER SIDE

Cross to the side of the river opposite the road or access trail. Most Anglers don't walk far from their car/truck, and most don't bother crossing to the other side of the river.

### LOOK FOR THEM

Instead of fishing blind, walk along the banks until you spot fish. You'll spend more time walking and looking instead of casting, but this is how the Anglers who consistently catch big fish do it.

### SCOUT IT OUT

Low water may not be the best time for catching, but it's the perfect time to look for hidden holes, lies, and bars in the middle of the river

In the summer, wet wade to find cooler water where springs might come in - fish migrate there in summer and winter.

### CHANGE IS GOOD

Changes in current speed, depth, water temperature and stream bottom all provide clues to a fish's location. If you are new to a stretch of water, look for change, and start fishing there. This holds true in fresh and salt water. Color changes are subtle but especially important. A change from light green to dark green in a river often indicates a depression and is likely to hold fish. Dark spots on a saltwater flat indicate a grassy bottom.



**DUES ARE DUE!**

In accordance with our KCFC bylaws, membership renewals and dues are due as of October 1st.

In an era of ever rising prices, our Club dues are still **\$35.00** per family! And, that includes two adult voting members!

Please print and fill out this form and either bring it to the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting along with your dues, or mail them to:

Klamath Country Fly Casters  
PO Box 324  
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601

First voting member:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email:

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone:

\_\_\_\_\_

Second voting member:

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email:

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Telephone:

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## INDISPENSABLE FLIES, by Ralph Carestia

### Purple Haze



#### Description

Andy Carlson, a fly fishing guide on the Bitterroot River in Montana originated the Purple Haze fly pattern. It closely resembles a Parachute Adams with a purple body. This has been a very effective pattern in Montana and has become a popular dry fly in general. The Purple Haze is an excellent attractor dry, especially during the fall. It's a great choice during fall BWO time.

The purple haze is essentially a parachute adams, but with purple flexi-floss or dubbing for the body instead of traditional dubbing. The purple haze fly is a general mayfly imitation, but it also works well when used as a searching pattern. If you have a cloudy day or are fishing periods of low light, then this is one of the best fly choices you can make when fishing the Madison River.

The pattern is pretty straight forward but there are a few tricks that will make it easier to tie. First is the body material. You can use purple dubbing but I have found that a good dubbing for it. Flexi Floss or MFC's Wonder Wrap are perfect for the body material. You can pull it tight when wrapping and build a sweet taper. Most people are intimidated by tying parachutes.

Tie your post in any way you prefer. After you tie it in make sure you build a strong base on the bottom of the post. This base is where you are going to wrap the hackle.

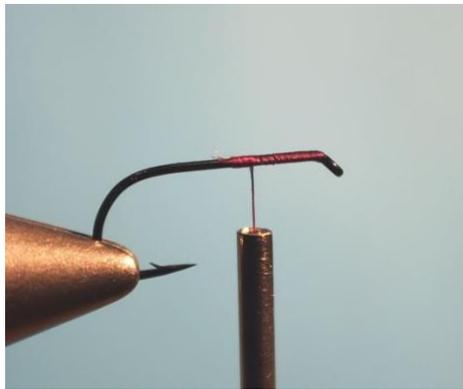


**Materials**

<b>Hook:</b>	<b>TMC 100 #12 - #18</b>
<b>Thread:</b>	<b>Purple 8/0 UTC</b>
<b>Tail:</b>	<b>Grey/brown Moose Hock Hair</b>
<b>Wing:</b>	<b>White Calf Body Hair</b>
<b>Hackle:</b>	<b>Brown and Grizzly Rooster Neck</b>
<b>Body:</b>	<b>Sprit River - Superfine UV Purple dubbing</b>

**Instructions**

1. Start the thread immediately behind the hook eye and wrap a thread base back to the fifty percent point. Return the thread to the seventy-five percent point and let it hang there.



2. Cut, clean and stack a clump of calf body hair. Measure the stacked calf hair against the shank so it is equal to the shank length. Tie in at its midpoint at the 75% point on the shank with several turns of thread. Pull the butt ends of the hair above the hook and cut them at a low angle along the shank to taper them smoothly down to the hook.



3. Build a smooth thread base to cover the butt ends of the hair that tapers down to the bare shank behind the butts. Cut, clean and stack about 10 grey/brown moose hock fibers. Tie the moose hair in at the bend and wrap forward over the butt ends to just in front of the hook point. Trim the butt ends of the hair across the top of the shank so they butt into the taper from the wing butts. Post the wing by wrapping the thread around the base of the wing. Make the thread post high enough to gather all the fibers into a single clump, but not too high. Make another wrap around the hook to lock these wraps in place.



4. Select one brown and one grizzly feather with matching barb lengths and stack them one on top of the other, inside to outside. Prepare their bases by stripping a few fibers from the quill exposing the stem for a length of about three or four eye lengths. Tie these feathers in at the same time (with the insides of the feathers toward the hook shank) in front of the wing. Wrap over the stems all the way to the top of the thread post and back down again to the base of the post.



5. Move the thread to the back of the hook and apply a thin layer of dubbing to it. Start wrapping the dubbing with the first turn at the base of the tail/bend of the hook and work forward forming a pronounced taper to the back of the wing. Cross the dubbing to the front of the wing and continue the body with the dubbing tapering back down at the back of the index point.



6. Grasp the tips of the hackle feathers with a pair of Hackle Pliers and begin wrapping the feathers at the top of the thread post. Make the first turn of hackle at the top of the post with each successive turn under the last, working down to the base of the post.



7. Once at the base of the wing, pull the hackle feathers down on the far side of the hook. Holding the hackle out of the way with your right hand, tie off the hackle tips immediately behind the hook eye. Clip the thread. Apply a small drop of head cement at the base of the wing and another on the thread head and you're done!



**Completed Fly**



**Bottom View**



**Top View**

