



NEW MEXICO TROUT

January / February 2009

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Fly of The Month



*Fly and Photograph
By Jeremy Barela*

This is a great pattern for the tailwater rivers found in central Colorado. Trout are known to gorge themselves on Mysis Shrimp, which allow them to grow larger and have beautiful colors. Tie these reverse on the hook and fish them in varying depths to catch a trout of a lifetime!

Mysis Shrimp

Hook: Daiichi 1270 #16-22

Thread: White 8/0

Tail: Pearl Flashabou

Tentacles: Clear microtube

Thorax: Pearl Ice dub

Eyes: Black rubber legs, trimmed short

New Mexico Trout Conclave

New Mexico's largest one-day gathering of fly fishing enthusiasts-and for good reason!

New Mexico Trout's annual Conclave provides an indulgence of fly fishing knowledge, experience, and camaraderie, as well as chances to win all sorts of fishing gear and goodies. This year's featured speakers are two world-traveled fly fishing gentlemen, Barry Reynolds and Jeff Currier.

Barry Reynolds is a true master of fly fishing with over twenty years experience guiding fly fishers to angling destinations all over the world. He is a certified casting instructor and master fly tier. His presentations at the Conclave will be covering the often overlooked area of fly fishing for warm water species and "Pursuit of the Water Wolf, Pike."

New Mexico has a wealth of warm water fishing opportunities just waiting to be enjoyed. Barry's presentations will arm us with the technical info that we need to effectively tackle everything from largemouth bass in Elephant Butte, to smallmouth bass in the Pecos and Gila Rivers, to those monster carp located throughout the state. Don't miss this opportunity to talk with one of the nation's top warm water fish catching experts.

Also, after more than two years, Barry and

his production crew have recently completed their full length movie, Pike on the Fly "In Pursuit of the Water Wolf." Barry will explain to us, how and what, to present to these bad boys of the upper Rio Grande to take the idea of catching one from a dream to reality. Come see what Barry means when he says pike hit flies with bad intentions!

Jeff Currier will be teaching us the finer points of low-budget fly fishing. He refers to it as "Trout Bumming!" Don't confuse low-budget with uninteresting. Jeff will be treating us to presentations about fly fishing National Parks in Wyoming and budget fly fishing in general.

Yellowstone National Park and its surrounding waters provide some of the best fly fishing for trout anywhere in the world. Join Jeff as he leads us through every month of the calendar year of a trout bum's life fly fishing these fabled waters. As for other surrounding waters, most are unaware that there is also fantastic fishing in Teton Park as well as in and around Jackson Hole. Jeff will cover all these waters and explain how you too can do it on a budget.

...Continues on next page

SAVE THE DATE

January 31, 2009

New Mexico Trout Conclave

February 10, 2009

New Mexico Trout general meeting featuring Tingley Beach Curator, Rebecca Hautman, and our own Jerry Burton

March 10, 2009

New Mexico Trout general meeting

March 21, 2009

Truchas Chapter TU Banquet Inn at Loretto (*please note this NEW DATE which is a CHANGE from last newsletter*)

April 14, 2009

New Mexico Trout general meeting

May 9, 2009

NMT Jemez work day and BBQ

...Conclave from front page

Due to popular demand, we will be holding casting clinics again this year. Bob Widgren will be offering casting workshops for all levels of fishermen and Rudy Rios will be back with his youth casting clinic for the kids, too. Both of these New Mexico Trout members have helped hundreds of fly fishers improve their level of casting expertise.

And what would our Conclave be without the raffle? This year's raffle is going to rival the best of years past. Here's an idea of what awaits you on the raffle table line-up: reels, lines, flies, fly tying kits, rods, a custom bamboo rod, a float tube or two,

guided trips to the San Juan, a trip to Alaska, fly fishing books, fly fishing clothing, kid's only rigs, discounts on gear, and goodies for your tummy. Bring your winning attitude for best results.

This year's Conclave will be held January 31, 2009 at Sandia Prep School located on Osuna Blvd. west of I-25 and starts at 8:00 AM sharp. Plan on arriving a bit early as there is construction taking place on Sandia Prep property and getting around can be a little confusing. There will be signs posted at the school directing you to parking, sign-in, and event locations.

Conclave Speakers



Jeff Currier:

Jeff Currier – Author, Lecturer, Artist and Flyfisherman Jeff Currier is a fly fishing maniac! He resides in Victor, Idaho where he bases his career in fly fishing. For 20 years he has worked at the Jack Dennis Fly Shop in Jackson, WY where he presently manages all fishing operations. He has taught the skills of fly fishing, guided fly fishers throughout Wyoming and Yellowstone National Park, and escorted anglers to fishing destinations throughout the world. Jeff's adventures to over forty countries with 175 fly caught species and counting make him one of the foremost authorities on exotic fly fishing today. His articles, photographs and artwork have

graced the pages of magazines, catalogs, brochures and books. Jeff is the author of Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Saltwater Fly Fishing and Currier's Quick and Easy Guide to Warmwater Fly Fishing guide books. Jeff's most renowned accomplishment was leading Team USA to its first ever top-ten finish in the World Fly Fishing Championships in Jaca, Spain. During the competition Jeff managed to fool fish on every venue met and place third in the individual standings, becoming the first North American ever to take home a medal in the twenty-six year history of the event. Jeff brings a sense of humor, enthusiasm and over thirty-five years of fly fishing to wherever he goes.

Barry Reynolds:

Reynolds is a true master of fly fishing, with over twenty years experience guiding fly fishers to angling destinations all over the world including Belize, Brazil, Bahamas, Alaska and Canada, just to name a few. He is a certified casting instructor and master fly tier, who excels in all fields as a pro-staff member with many elite companies of the fly fishing world.

Currently serves as a pro-staffer with Scott Fly Rods, Ross Reels, Rio Fly Lines, and is also a contract tier with Umpqua Feather Merchants designing new and unique patterns for the fish he pursues that are sold worldwide.

Barry's love for fly fishing and the outdoors is evident in his numerous written articles and photography. He has sold to magazines such as American Angler, Wild on the Fly, Warm Water Angler, and Southwest Fly Fishing. Barry has also co-authored three books including Pike on the Fly, Carp on the Fly, Beyond Trout, and most recently in solo effort, Mastering Pike on the Fly.

In addition to his writing skills, Barry has made more than twenty guest appearances on a variety of outdoor television and radio shows. In 1994 Barry wrote and directed his first video "The Fly-rodgers Guide to Pike," and currently completed production of a instructional DVD "The Fly Rodder's Guide to Carp".

Barry's following and continued growth in popularity with the angling public has lead him to the seminar circuit during the winter months where he travels the country and entertains and educates the public in all that fly fishing has to offer. Barry is also the Actor/Host and Producer of "The Barry Reynolds Fly Fishing Journal" that will air on the Altitude Sports Channel 25 January 2009. Barry is married, and is the father of two children, Christie, and Michael. Barry resides in Aurora Colorado with his wife Susan.



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Letter From The President

Mike Maurer, NMT President

I can hardly believe another year has passed and we're well into 2009. Of course that brings another great conclave, and we are going to have a good one Saturday, January 31!

This year we will have two outstanding speakers we have never had before, Jeff Courier and Barry Reynolds. Both have many books, DVD's, TV appearances, magazine articles and world travel to their credit. And both have done many appearances before an audience such as ours.

Jeff Courier is a world renowned and traveled cold water fly fishing expert who has written several books and articles, and has made DVDs on all aspects of trout and cold water fly fishing. Plus Jeff is a well known and respected artist. Jeff has traveled to about every country in the world that has fly fishing, check out his web site at www.jeffcourier.com.

Barry Reynolds, on the other hand, pursues other fresh water species. He has become one of the worlds leading gurus on Pike and Carp fishing. Barry has written 2 or 3 books on each, written magazine articles as well as made DVDs. You Pike fishing guys will really enjoy watching and listening to Barry. You can check out his web site at www.barryreynoldsflyfishing.com.

I am sure you are aware that the conclave is our only yearly fund raiser and all our operation and conservation projects depend on what we can raise at the conclave auction. Eric Collins always has the greatest auctions and this year is going to be even better. Come and meet old friends, renew old acquaintances, have a good dinner and take part in outstanding programs and raffles, it promises to be the best Saturday of the year!

In December our conservation project chairman, Ron Loehman, Rudy Rios, Eric Collins and myself, met with Chantel Cook and many other Santa Fe Forest personnel for our yearly conservation project session to map out the projects they hope to undertake this year and which projects New Mexico Trout can partner with.

There will be several we can get involved with (Ron has the complete list elsewhere). The Peralta Canyon project is moving forward and we will have several opportunities to work with Santa Fe Forest wildlife, fisheries and trails crews. Our Conservation/Bar-B-Que meeting will be Saturday, May 9th in the Peralta canyon working on the parking area ATV barriers and the trail to the creek. We hope to have a large group to experience one of the most beautiful canyons in New Mexico while participating in a worthwhile endeavor, enjoy great Bar-B-Que and maybe slip off and catch a trout or two.

At our February general meeting, we will have our yearly (belated) election of officers. The President and Secretary positions are open. Rudy Rios has been nominated for president, replacing me. Pat Mileschosky is nominated for secretary, replacing Trish Breslin. I enthusiastically endorse both. After 5 years, I believe it time for a fresh approach and new ideas, and Rudy will make a terrific president. It's good to have Pat Mileschosky active again and willing to fill Trish Breslin's position as Secretary. Trish has done a great job for several years, and we'll really miss her. Unfortunately the Vice President position has re-opened; Stan Quintana has had a family health emergency and will not be able to fill his term as Vice President. We are actively searching for a replacement and will be happy to take nominations from the membership.

The February meeting will continue our series on New Mexico Trout streams, Jerry Burton will have all they latest poop on a great fly fishing stream, what's there, how to get there, when to go, and what to use, etc. plus Rebecca Houtman will have a complete run down on all the projects coming up at the Tingley fly fishing and kids lakes. She has been very busy putting together programs and Bob Day, Pete Gordinier, and Rudy Rios have been involved in these with her. There are some very interesting things about to happen there, come join us and find out all about them.

2008-2009 NM TROUT DIRECTORS

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Conservation 2008

Ron Loehman, Conservation Chairman

New Mexico Trout's mission is to preserve and enhance trout fishing in New Mexico's waters by restoring riparian habitats and by educating the public about trout fishing and the value of trout habitats. Each year we organize a broad program of activities to support our mission, ranging from targeted donations to worthy projects, to hands-on volunteer work on area streams, to educational programs for the public. Our activities this past year included the following:

Hands-on volunteer work

- Rio Guadalupe cleanup and informal campsite remediation
- Cattle fence building and educational kiosk installation, upper Cebolla
- Cattle exclosure construction and riparian restoration, upper de las Vacas
- Comanche Creek restoration, Valle Vidal

Educational activities:

- Kids Fishing day support, Seven Springs hatchery (see Rudy Rios' article elsewhere in this newsletter)
- Volunteer fly tying and casting instruction throughout the season at Tingley fishing ponds
- Mentoring and guiding Boy Scout troop for fly fishing merit badges
- Beginner instruction (with emphasis on youth) at Fly Tying Symposium
- Periodic fly tying instruction at Sportsman's Warehouse
- Interpretive kiosks on Rio Cebolla (both funding and installation)

Funding and other activities:

- Interpretive kiosk construction, \$6500. To Jemez District, US Forest Service
- Materials and supplies for Comanche Creek work; \$2500. to Truchas Chapter, TU.
- Gila trout reintroduction on Willow Creek (Gila NF); \$4165. to USFS
- Support for publication of book on riparian restoration; \$3000. to Quivera Coalition
- Support for American Fisheries Society Meeting, Albuquerque; \$250. to AFS
- Letters to USFS supporting old Forest Road closures to reduce stream impacts
- Letter supporting RG Cutthroat reintroduction on Rio Indios in Valles Caldera

We fund these activities primarily through the proceeds from the annual Conclave, which this year will take place at Sandia Prep on Jan. 31. Plan to attend this year's symposium and support future conservation activities. Also consider volunteering for one or more of the projects that are described elsewhere in the newsletter. The projects provide a good learning experience and it's always rewarding to get out and work with fellow NMT members.

2009 Conservation Project Schedule

Date	Description	Contact
April 4	Willow planting on upper Cebolla above Seven Springs Campground; may be postponed if road impassible	Jo Wargo or Matthew Gachupin, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
May 2 - 3	Annual NMT conservation barbecue, Peralta Creek (population of RG cutthroats); build ATV barriers, improve trail & stream crossings, install information kiosk, riparian exclosure, willow planting; optional May 3 with reserved overnight camping at Jemez Falls	Phyllis Martinez or Jo Wargo, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
May 30 -31	Install 3 information Kiosks along Rio Guadalupe on FR 376	Amanda Webb, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
June 13-14 or June 20-21	Improve spur trail along East Fork of the Jemez near East Fork Trailhead on SR 4; reserved overnight camping at Jemez Falls	Phyllis Martinez, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
July 17 -19	Comanche Creek restoration and workshop by Bill Zeedyk, Valle Vidal. A continuation of a multi-year project; group overnight camping available	Art Vollmer, NMED (505) 476-6004
Late July, 4 days, 3 nights	Trout monitoring, San Pedro Parks streams. This is a 3-4 day backpack trip	Chantel Cook, SFNF (505) 438-7879
May – Sept,	River to Riparian Volunteers Program; Rio Guadalupe, Cebolla, and lower de las Vacas; work in teams of two on weekends to contact & educate campers on proper use of dispersed, riparian campsites. One or two weekends per month/ volunteer. FS will reimburse volunteers \$0.50/mile.	Amanda Webb, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
TBD	Polvadera Creek (Canones tributary on North Jemez, w/ RGC population); build ATV barriers, riparian restoration and habitat improvement. Work alongside YouthCorps.	Donald Serrano, Espanola Dist. (505) 753-7331
TBD	Rio Chama below Abiquiu; riparian restoration	Mary Orr, Espanola Dist. (505) 753-7331
TBD (maybe May 3)	Elk fencing on Peralta Creek	Alicia Gallegos / Matthew Gachupin, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
TBD (Sept or Oct)	Mushroom pasture (across from San Antonio campground); build fence to keep cattle out of San Antonio creek	Alicia Gallegos / Matthew Gachupin, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535
TBD (Aug or Sept)	Pony and Hay canyons, upper Cebolla; meadow restoration by thinning & piling slash; also helps keep cows out of creek	Alicia Gallegos / Matthew Gachupin, Jemez Dist. (575) 829-3535

If you have ANY questions on these projects please contact:

Ron Loehman, Conservation Chairman, New Mexico Trout
ronloehman@gmail.com (505) 328-1489
 or Mike Maurer mikemaurer@earthlink.net (505) 892-4092

Tingley Beach Meeting

The February NMT general meeting presentation on Tingley Beach

Tingley Beach is a fishing facility owned by the City of Albuquerque and managed by the ABQ BioPark. Tingley was first designed as a swimming facility in the 1930's and later modified to be fishing hole in the 1950's. Until 2004, the facility has struggled with poor water quality, erosion concerns and undesirable ground water flow movement. A \$16 million, collaborative, renovation project between the US Army Corps of Engineers and the City of Albuquerque created the current top-notch urban, fishing and model boating facility with approximately 150,000 visitors a year. Tingley Beach is open free to the public, every day of the year from sunrise to sunset.

Tingley Beach now hosts three distinct fishing ponds and one model boat pond. The Children's and Central Ponds are stocked for put-and-take. The Children's Pond is designated for youth 12 years old and younger. The large Central Pond is available for anglers of any age. These two ponds are stocked twice monthly with rainbow trout from November through March by the NMDGF. Currently it is stocked at 3,000 trout a month, but I am very hopeful this number will increase in the future. The NMDGF also stocks these Ponds with large catfish three times during the summer months: Labor Day, 4th of July, and Memorial Day. Summer is also a great time to fish for bluegill and largemouth bass, which are actively reproducing in the Ponds on their own. Because Tingley Beach ponds are stocked by the NMDGF, the facility follows all State fishing rules. Rules for fishing at Tingley Beach are identified in the NMDGF annual fishing proclamation.

On the south end of Tingley Beach is our prized South Pond. This Pond is catch and release only. It is regulated by the NMDGF as "Special Trout Water", similarly to quality water section of the San Juan. This Pond is primarily stocked by the New Mexico BioPark Society with large rainbow trout in October. However, by mid-November the trout have wized up to the tricks of the savvy fly fisher and become a challenge to catch!

So about once a month during the winter months we add a net full of NMDGF trout stockers (not well schooled in our tricks) so we can feel like successful anglers again, catching 20+ fish a day. The South Pond is a fantastic winter retreat for anglers looking to catch large trout without the time and expense of traveling outside of the heart of Albuquerque. When you are itching to fish but your chore-list has you busy for all but a few hours on the weekend or the streams of the Jemez are half frozen and the thought of standing in the cold San Juan doesn't seem appealing, Tingley Beach hits the spot just right.

So when was the last time you were at Tingley Beach? Was it back in the 1940's when it was the best swimming hole in the state? Or was it fishing with your family in the 1970's and 80's? Or maybe it was fishing 10 years ago when it was anyone's guess on what you'd end up with on the end of your fishing line? But have you been to Tingley Beach lately? If you haven't, you're in for a big surprise!

Please join me at New Mexico Trout's general meeting in February when I'll share a slide show presentation on how Tingley Beach came to be, share old photos from the 1930's and 1940's, discuss how the funding came about to develop the renovated fishing ponds, describe current educational programs that are strongly supported by NMT, and share the City of Albuquerque's hopes for the future of Tingley Beach. I'm hopeful you'll share your old Tingley stories with me as well!

Rebecca Houtman
Tingley Beach Curator
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www.cabq.gov/biopark

YOUTH EDUCATION - RECAP OF 2008

Rudy Rios – Youth Director



Several youth programs were completed during the 2008 year with the generous assistance of New Mexico Trout members conducting the volunteer effort.

A very Special THANK YOU go to Trish and Fred Breslin, Eric Collins, Ken

Gaillard, Robert Morrow, Pete Gordiners, Kent Reid, Walt Ratcliff, Deward Yocum, Andy Perez, Bob Day, Jerry Burton, Doc Minter, Don Duncan, Ti Piper, Taylor Streit, Dave Strattmoen, and Larry Baker. I would to say if you run into anyone of these wonderful folks, please give them a big hand shake or pat on the back. Without the effort of these

stellar volunteers to drive 100s of miles to different events through the year, the teaching of fly tying to youth in New Mexico would be sadly diminished.

The biggest one day event is The Jemez Kids Fishing Day at the brood pond at Seven Springs Hatchery. Kim Devalle was the coordinator of this wonderful event for youth who enjoyed wildlife exhibits, fish painting, fly tying, casting instruction, oh and fishing too! Several youth caught their first fish ever, and some on a Wolley bugger tied at the New Mexico Trout booth. Trish Breslin had one little girl bring her fish back to the booth to show her the fish caught using the super secret Trish Breslin Wolley Bugger. You'll have to ask Trish for her recipe. Doc Minter was on hand to teach youth the fine art of caddis tying for the Jemez, and he even tied up some very special patterns he has invented that catch fish up and down the Jemez watershed. Walt Ratcliff had a contingent of Boy Scouts requesting that only he show them how to tie a fly.

Fly Fishing and Cattle Grazing on the Valles Caldera National Preserve

Ron Loehman, Conservation Chairman

The Valles Caldera Trust held its quarterly public meeting in Santa Fe on Dec. 11, 2008. Bill Keleher (chairman) and the rest of the Trust board presided over the meeting, with presentations by Valles Trust professional staff, to an audience of about fifty interested citizens and representatives of various interest groups. The agenda was primarily a yearly review of Trust programs, activities, and financial results for 2008. The attendees were most interested in how the grazing program was implemented this past season, and especially its effect on recreation and whether it generated a profit to the Trust. Questions and comments from the audience were numerous and pointed.

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Morton of Las Vegas, NM had the winning bid of \$62,200. that allowed them to graze 1960 steers on the Preserve through this past November. During that time the cattle each gained an average of 304 lbs. (1960 cows x 304 lbs/cow x \$0.80/lb = \$476,672.00). The con-

tract required use of so-called "adaptive management" in which the steers would be allowed to graze intensely, but briefly, in riparian areas and then moved to places away from streams for most grazing. The plan broke down almost immediately and Tim Haarmann, the Preserve Foreman, stated that the cattle just wanted to stay down in the creek and they couldn't move them. Haarmann had no response to repeated, insistent questions on why the staff didn't require the Mortons to abide by the contract. A later presentation by Preserve Scientist, Dr. Bob Parmenter, revealed that grazing consumed 100% of new forage in the riparian areas grazed by cattle. Photos of riparian test areas fenced to exclude cattle but not elk showed that cattle had a much more detrimental effect than elk.

I (Ron Loehman) made a statement on behalf of NM Trout that our members regarded the presence of cows in the Preserve streams to be unacceptable, particularly when those members had gone through a lot of trouble and ex-

pense to fish there. I further stated that I considered cows to be destructive to riparian health and function, and that grazing was incompatible with other uses. If there were a conclusion from the lengthy exchange on the grazing program, it was a promise from Harman and the Preserve Board to do better next time. That future grazing program is the subject of a recently released, 250-page Environmental Assessment (EA), which is legally required before the Trust can implement any long-term grazing program. The EA lays out four alternatives, ranging from no grazing to grazing with economic return the primary objective. In my opinion, the EA favors the alternative that resembles this past season's program. The EA process requires consideration of public comments, which are being accepted until Feb. 2, 2009. Copies of the whole EA document, or just the Executive Summary, are available from info@vallescaldera.gov. Comments should be sent to comments@vallescaldera.gov.



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Quote of The Month

“ May the holes in your net be no larger
than the fish in it”

-Irish Blessing

Editor's Note

When submitting articles for the newsletter, please remember to include a **TITLE, YOUR NAME, and the DATE.** DEADLINE for next issue entry is **FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

We prefer MSWord, but can read most any file format.
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New Mexico Trout is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of trout fishing in New Mexico's waters through restoration of riparian habitats and through the education of the public about trout fishing and the value of trout habitats. New Mexico Trout is a 501-c3 non-profit organization, and we welcome your tax deductible contributions.

