

NEWSLETTER

wmflyfishingclub.com

Established 1996

P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935

July 2022

WMFFC MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission Statement of the White Mountain Fly Fishing Club is: "To assist in the development and maintenance of fly fishing opportunities and to promote and participate in fly fishing in its many forms."

We support the practice of "Catch and Release." We support the use of barbless hooks and harmless netting-and-release practices. Fish should never be held out of water for longer than you can hold your breath.

"Tight Lines"—President's Column:

This months newsletter is late but please understand. It is with great sadness that I inform you of the passing of Michael Smith, former president of WMFFC and my Life Partner for 20 plus years. I sent you all an e-mail about his passing. I plan to have a Celebration of Life for Michael some time in the future.

July's meeting will be on the 20th at the Nature Center. We will be having elections of Vice President, Treasurer and two Board Members at Large. Gary Hall has agreed to be Vice President again and Marge Dennis Treasurer. Rick Tesnsky and Gary Miller are running for Board Members at Large.

No guest speaker but I will be doing a PowerPoint presentation on fishing adventures over the years with Michael and myself. We traveled all over the north-west and Canada in our 5th wheel flyfishing. It was a dream experience.

There is a special article in this month's newsletter from Zac Jackson, our guest speaker from last month. Great information.

Wishing you a tug at the end of you line.

Dawn Hewitt

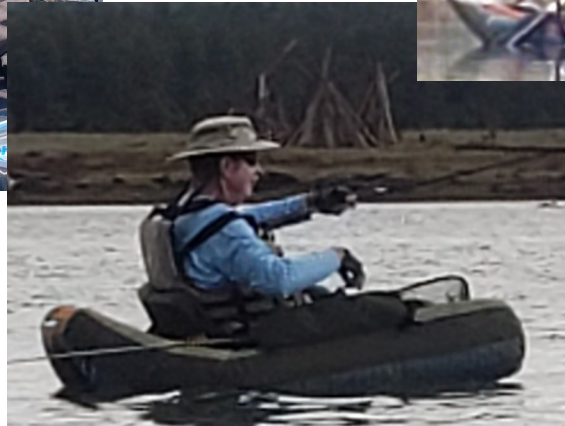
President



Picture Gallery



Gloria Mack and Dawn Hewitt fished Big Bear on July 6th. Tiny fish but lots of fun.



Rick Tesinsky and Phil Larriva at Horseshoe Lake on the June Outing. We all fished until it rained. Many caught and landed fish.

2021-22 WMFFC Board Members

President:	Dawn Hewitt	(480) 695-3965
Past President:	Barry Curseaden	(623) 398-5242
Vice President:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-6362
Secretary:	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
Treasurer:	Marge Dennis	(928) 358-1901
Board Member at Large:	John Potts	(480)766-8020
Board Member at Large:	VACANT	
Board Member at Large:	VACANT	
Membership Chairman:	Peggy Sherman	(480) 203-6414
Conservation and Community Projects Chairman:	VACANT	
Education Chairman:	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
Newsletter Chairman:	VACANT	
Outings Chairman:	VACANT	
IFFF Representative:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-7381
AZG&F Liaison & Website Coordinator	VACANT	
Banquet Committee	VACANT	

Please Consider Volunteering- it does not take much work and you don't have to be a Board Member!

Duties of the Outing Chairperson: You do not have to run every outing but find members to sponsor the events. The board along with an Outings Chair will suggest a schedule of locations in the next month so we can get started with planning.

The club owns a trailer that we will bring to the outings event each month. It contains chairs, grills, tables and most supplies that would be needed for events. Members will just need to bring their lunch.

Newsletter Editor: The President will submit his or her "Tight Lines" article to the editor along with any other articles or information that is current. Using software provided will compose the newsletter and reach out to members for their input of articles or photos for inclusion.

Conservation and Community Projects: Chairman will create as many sub-committee chairs and committee members as may be required to carry out an active Club role in fishery resource conservation management issues and community projects, such as Casting for Recovery, Keep America Clean, Project Healing Waters and others. Prepare and submit a timely monthly article to the Newsletter Editor.

Annual Banquet Committee:
Create sub-committee chairs to assist with the following:
Secure the banquet site, Torreon or other comparable venue.
Have Banquet tickets printed, distributed and sold, including the accounting for same.
Prepare and mail donation letters to vendors, etc.
Prepare and mail "thank you" letters to raffle donors.
Prepare and submit article summarizing the annual banquet to Newsletter Editor.

AZG&F Liaison and Website Coordinator:
Coordinator will maintain contact with AZG&F Pinetop Office to keep the club advised of any upcoming volunteer opportunities for WMFFC. Will submit Newsletters to Website Manager for publication on the Website. Will keep website current and post articles and schedules of events.

If you can help in any manner there are plenty of members that have done these duties before that would be very willing to help and guide you.

A CLUB IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE VOLUNTEERS THAT MAKE IT.

ROD BUILDING CLASSES

Gary Miller, Jon Wallace and Bob Bowers are all set to offer rod building again this year most likely in May and will be offering making personal corks to go with the rods. If you are interested please contact Gary at (602) 478-0883.

Fly Tying Classes will be offered soon. Gary Hall and Rick Tesinsky are starting to work out the logistics and schedule.

PROPOSED OUTING SCHEDULE

During Covid we were not able to host outings or even many meetings. I am hoping to reignite the fire in this club and I have the following proposed outing that I will need help with:

June 25th **Horseshoe** was a fun day of fishing with Phil Larriva , Rick Tesinski, new member Gretchen McClanahan, Keith Spain, Jim Natcher, John Bustraan, Max Johnson. Max landed really nice fish.



July 23 To Be Determined at Meeting. Possibly Nelson Reservoir. Reports have been good. I will send out email when set.

August No Banquet this year as decided by the Board. We need a Banquet Committee to begin planning now for next year.

August Outing To Be determined

September 24th To Be determined

October 15th **Becker Lake Days** with White Mountain Lakes Foundation, AFC and DFC

The following article was submitted for publication by Zacary (Zac) Jackson as our speaker for June. Zac is the Project Coordinator for the USFWS Arizona Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (AZFWCO) in Whiteriver, Arizona, Zac was our guest speaker at last months meeting.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) assists the White Mountain Apache Tribe Game and Fish Department (Department) in providing sportfishing opportunities in their many quality lakes and streams. The Service works with the Department to raise Apache, Brook, Brown, and Rainbow trouts at their Alchesay and Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery units. The Alchesay Unit is located 9 miles north of Whiteriver, Arizona. The Williams Creek Unit is located 4.1 miles south of Hondah, Arizona, then 9 miles east off Highway 73. The public is welcomed to visit each hatchery and learn more about their operations and programs. The Alchesay-Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery Complex was designed to fulfill a federal responsibility for stocking waters on Tribal lands throughout eastern Arizona and western New Mexico. Alchesay National Fish Hatchery

serves as a "grow-out rearing unit" for brown trout and rainbow trout fingerlings transferred from Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery. The annual production of these trout species represents the largest Indian Trust, inland recreational fishing program in the National Fish Hatchery System and the complex is known for its leading role in the recovery of the threatened Apache trout. Apache Trout from Williams Creek NFH have been used to establish wild recovery populations, but they're more commonly used to provide sportfishing opportunities in lakes and streams on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation.

Both hatcheries are dealing with significant water quality and quantity issues that are impacting their ability to meet size and number production targets. In particular, spring flows used by the Williams Creek unit are about half what they were 10 years ago. Despite the severe constraints this puts on the hatchery, they have been able to continue to meet most stocking requests. Apache Trout have been stocked into Big Bear, Christmas Tree, Earl Park, and Hurricane lakes, Cibecue, Diamond, and Paradise creeks, North Fork White River, and East Fork White River this year. And trout have been stocked into A-1 (Brook), Cooley (Rainbow), Drift Fence (Brook), Earl Park (Brook), Hawley (Brook), Horseshoe (Rainbow, Brown), Reservation (Brook, Rainbow), and Sunrise (Brook, Rainbow) lakes as well.

Christmas Tree Lake is the Department's premier trophy Apache Trout fishery. This fishery is catch-and-release only for Apache Trout. There are many Brown Trout in the lake as well, which can be harvested up to the daily bag limit of 5 fish. Over 1,500 Apache Trout up to 20 inches have been stocked into Christmas Tree Lake during 2022 with the final stocking of the year occurring in June. Many Apache Trout from previous years remain in the lake and daily catches of several dozen fish are commonly reported here. Although the hatcheries have significant challenges to overcome to meet production targets in the coming years, the Service and Department are committed to maintaining the current stocking program at Christmas Tree Lake.



CHRISTMAS TREE LAKE—WMAT