

CFFC April 12th Meeting at Bass Pro Shops

Kevin Howell, Davidson River Outfitters (DRO)

Adverse Conditions

Stained Water-

- Use large tippet in stained/high water situations

High Water-

- Look for eddies (rocks, logs, etc)
- Large rubber legs, webby hackle, marabou for movement
- Dark colors are better (black, brown or purple)

Low water-

- small tippet and longer leaders (6x or 7x tippet, 9' to 12' leaders)
- downsize or eliminate the strike indicator
- still have to visualize the strike
- downsize flies to eliminate splash
- stay out of the water as much as possible
- always fish upstream

Hot water-

- fish extremely early to 10am
- any sustained rain event will offer good fishing
- land fish as soon as possible
- spend as much time reviving the fish as it took to land it
- don't lift the fish from the water

Pressured fish

- try something different (type and size flies)
- avoid gold beads
- fish earlier or later
- fish in adverse (hard to get to water) water
- bigger fish prefer low light and nasty conditions

**** SLOPPY WADING HAS SAVED MORE FISH THAN ANY REGULATION EVER WRITTEN**

Go To Tactics

- Learn to be an effective nymph fisherman
- Add more weight to get to the bottom. It takes more weight than you think to get to the bottom
- Switch to lighter tippet
- Change the size of your flies
- soft hackle pheasant tail size 18 (Peacock and partridge)
- Fish faster moving water and hard to get to water
- Faster or rippled water hides angler's mistakes
- Mend, Mend, Mend (learn to mend effectively)

Go To Flies

- Sheepfly, size 6 – 16, 4x long streamer hook
- Kevin's Stonefly, 6 – 12, heavily weighted streamer hook
- Soft Hackle, 12 – 20
- San Juan Worm, 12 – 20, Key West Pink (best color), wine, red, brown
- Bill's Provider, 6 – 12, use in clear, high water
- Trip Saver, 10- -18 (14, 16, 18 the best)
- Sassi Solution, 16 – 20 (18 & 20 best)
- Green Weenie