

First Coast Fly Fisher

April 2006

www.fcff.org

Jacksonville, FL



Bob White With
Bluegill From Hogan
Lake Outing

MEETING & SPEAKER

FCFF Meeting: Monday, Apr. 3, 7 p.m. -- Speaker: Capt. Tony Bozzella

An interest in tournament fishing led Tony to three top-10 finishes in the Professional Redfish Tour against some of the world's best anglers and a 1st-place in the Mitzi Skiff Redfish Shootout. Tony also won 1st place in the the prestigious Key Largo Backcountry Challenge and Top Guide Award. Tony is often featured in many national publications and on national television programs like FOX Sports, ESPN, OLN, and Sunshine Network.

Casting instructor's David Lambert & Dick Michaelson will demo distance casts and discuss their pros and cons.

COMING EVENTS

April Outing: Lochloosa for Bass and Bream. Saturday, April 29: Bass bream or crappie. Orange and Lochloosa, connected by Cross Creek. . Launch Yankee Landing fish camp. Just south of Hawthorne on US 301. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at

Cracker Boy's Country Cafe, 5605 SE US 301 in Hawthorne. Fish til 1 p.m. meet back up at racker Boys for a post-mortem and outing lunch. More info at the April Meeting or contact George Durrance, grdrbgay@bellsouth.net (904) 241-5697

May Meeting: Monday, May 1 -- Speaker: Capt Larry Kennedy of St. Simons speaks on Coastal Georgia's tripletail fly fishery. Larry Kennedy was fly fishing in the Nixon era. He's insightful, funny, and out-spoken.;

June 22, 23, 24 Annual Steinhatchee Weekend Outing: Better reserve your room quick for the annual Steinhatchee weekend. Rooms fill up fast. Contact Mike McQuiston or George Durrance for more information.

Hogan Lake

FCFFers Snag Bass, Bream, Crappie, and a Gator



by Dick Michaelson

FCFFers met for a perch outing at White Springs. Many Frey, our host for the bunch for an outing tables at the Crackle

powerboats, three kayaks. We were down I-10 -- a was a little concerned

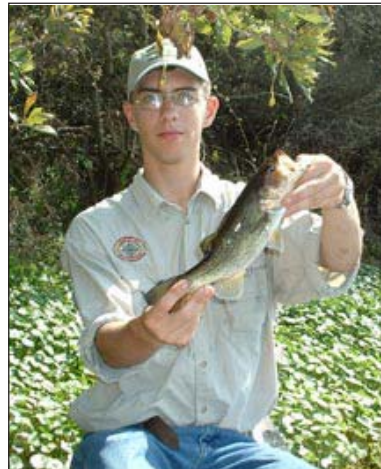
Two weeks ago, 24 bream and speckled Hogan Lake, north of thanks to Ernie & Joyce trip. Twenty-four is a and we took up lots of Barrel on I-10 west.

We had four canoes and nine quite a site coming convoy of fly fishers. I about fishing 24 people on one lake.

Hogan Lake is a few miles North of White Springs. It is part of the lake complex near Bienville Plantation. These lakes are the results of strip mining and their reclamation program. The dirt road leading to the lake was a little rough in places but we all made it. The boat launch is more like a cleared out spot along the bank than a ramp. If you have a 4-wheel drive, you can launch a small powerboat with no problem. Bud Larson had a little problem getting his boat out but his all wheel drive came through. Standing at the ramp, all the lake you can see is a canal about 40 yards across and 200 yards long. Still I thought 24 people. Not a problem. After leaving the ramp and making a left turn and then a right turn, you are in a maze of canals and small pockets. A GPS would be good to have for this trip. The lake went on and on. Dennis Jamies did have his GPS, on my way back, he kept me from making a wrong turn. This made my trip back to the ramp a little shorter. For a kayaker that was a blessing at the end of the day.

The lake is deep with steep shorelines. I got out of my kayak once to take a break and the steep shoreline and white clay made it, well. . .let's just say I was

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Top - Ted Mayhew with Gator on Fly; Bottom Left - Lee Hinrichs with Nice Crappie; Right - Greg Howick with Hogan Lake Bass

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The Black Nose Dace

The All-Purpose Minnow Pattern For Fussy Fish



by Tom Regina

The black nose dace is a small bait fish that grows to about 2 inches in length. The black nose dace is distinguished from other minnows by the black lateral line which extends from the mouth through the eye to the tail. The body is rounded and plump in the front and compressed behind. The back is olive-green to dark brown while the lower sides and belly are silvery-white.

This minnow is found on both sides of the Appalachian Mountains in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Alabama, north into Canada and Nova Scotia, and as far west as the Dakotas. The black nose dace inhabits small, rapid streams and rivers with rocky or gravelly bottoms but is seldom found in lakes and ponds. Common names for this minnow are blacknose dace, black-nose dace, eastern blacknose dace, dace, striped dace, redfin dace, brook minnow, pottlebelly, and potbelly.

If the waters you fish are inhabited by black nose dace then the Black Nose Dace streamer fly is one you don't want to be without. Even if your stream or river waters have no dace population, carry a few of these streamers. Its an excellent searching pattern which I have used to catch and release many trout in the rivers of western North Carolina.

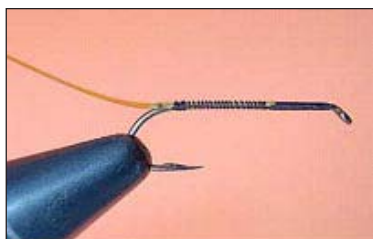
Materials

Hook - Streamer 3X to 6X long, size 6,8,10, or 12. This is a Mustad 9672 (3XL) size 6; **Thread** - 6/0 black; **Tail** - Red wool yarn; **Body** - Flat silver Mylar tinsel; **Underwing** - White bucktail; **Midwing** - Black bucktail; **Overwing** - Brown bucktail

Head - Epoxy (optional); **Eyes** - Paint or stick-on (optional)

Instructions

1. (Do not overdress) Debarb and mount the hook in the vise. Using a jam knot start the thread about two hooks eye distance back from the hook eye. In touching turns lay down a smooth neat thread base for 1/4" back from the hook eye.



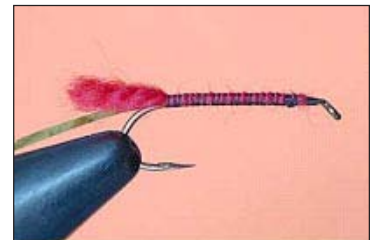
Tie in a 5" piece of flat silver Mylar tinsel gold side up on top of the hook shank with the running part of the tinsel extending back over the back of the hook bend. (Note: Flat Mylar tinsel comes in several sizes or widths.

Most flat Mylar tinsel is gold on one side, silver on the other.

To use the silver side tie the tinsel onto the hook gold side up. When the tinsel is wound around the hook shank the silver side will be out. Visa versa for gold side out). Continue wrapping the thread around the hook and over the tinsel to the hook bend.

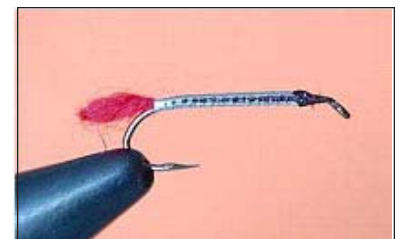
2. For the tail cut about a 2-inch

piece of red yarn from the skeen. Tie the yarn on at the bend. The tail should extend back over the hook bend a distance equal to about one hook gap.

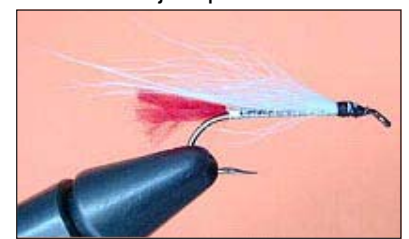


3. Pull the tag end of the yarn forward over the top of the hook shank and advance the thread forward in close spiral wraps to tie the yarn on top of the hook. Stop the thread wraps short of the thread tie-on point. Cut away the yarn tag end at a shallow angle and cover the angle cut with a few thread wraps.

4. Wrap the tinsel forward in slightly overlapping turns to the point where the back of the yarn shallow angle cut started. Tie off the tinsel and cut away the tag end.



5. Cut a small amount of white hair from the white bucktail for the underwing. Remove any fuzz or underbody hair from the butts and tips. Stack the hair to even the tips. (Clue - It's fine if the hair tips are not perfectly aligned. Staggered hair ends feather out naturally and appear tapered in the water). Measure the hair so when tied in by the butts, the tips will extend just past the end of the tail. Tie the hair in at the front of the body as shown in the picture. Use only 5 to 8 thread wraps to secure the hair. Do not allow the hair to migrate around the hook shank/body.

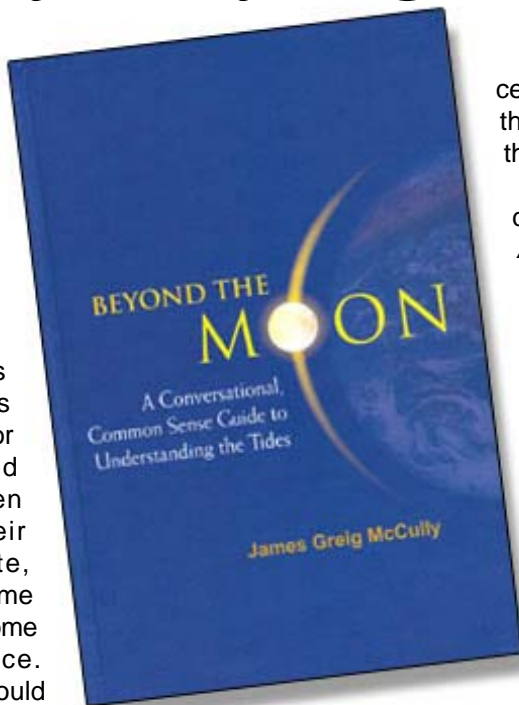


6. Black bucktail hair for the midwing should be less

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Demystifying the Tides

Beyond the Moon: A Conversational, Common Sense Guide to Understanding the Tides, James G. McCully, World Scientific Publishing Co., Pte. Ltd., 2006; 285 pages; line drawings and color illustrations; ISBN 981-256-644-9.



Reviewed by David Lambert

Ever wonder why some coasts have two high tides while others have one, or almost none? Author Jim McCully did. He asked professors, astronomers, even charter captains, but their responses were inaccurate, incomplete, or flat-out wrong, some erroneously based in waterlore, some on bad science.

After long research, McCully could not even find a lay book that fully explained the phenomenon of the tides. So he wrote *Beyond the Moon: A Conversational, Common Sense Guide to Understanding the Tides*, released in January by World Scientific press.

"The world is full of people who use the tide tables every day but do not understand the forces of nature that generate the tides," McCully writes in the opening chapter.

During his research the author discovers nearly 400 forces that influence tides, 114 of which NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) employs to generate their tidal predictions – 37 of which have a measurable influence on the earth's tides

Fear not — McCully contends that the average interested angler can be 90 percent accurate by creating his own tide predictions using only 7 principle influences. *Beyond the Moon* provides a thorough look at these, both

celestial and terrestrial, then credibly digests them for those of us who barely scraped through Earth Science.

Every waterman needs a long look at the chapter titled '*Weather and the Tides: Atmospheric Tides*.' In it McCully advises: ". . . the mariner must understand the effects of meteorology on the height of the water, and adjust the tide predictions accordingly. If he fails to account for barometric pressure, wind speed and direction, and importantly, the duration of that wind during the preceding 24-48 hours, he may find that the tide tables alone are not adequate for safe boating."

The real payoff for anglers comes in a chapter titled '*The Tides and Saltwater Fishing*.' If you take away nothing else from this book, memorize "The Rule of Twelve," a tide flow-guide the author confesses is not rigidly scientific, "but is close enough to be very useful."

The science in *Beyond the Moon* is not overwhelming, but it is an intricate weaving of astronomy and earth study, to be sure. McCully softens the complex tidal tapestry by offering useable facts and rules of thumb for anglers, mariners, and sailors; e.g., "One inch of change in barometric pressure will cause about one foot of change in the sea level (actually 14 inches)."

A full and complete understanding of the tides is a tour of many disciplines. McCully's dissection of the sciences eases the journey and his prose is very readable, even literary at times. You get earth science, sure, but you get history and digestible celestial mechanics, too – it's even funny in places. Helpful graphics, both line drawings and color illustrations, make the journey smooth. But it's McCully's knowledge of the subject and writing skills that make it a fun ride.

Black Nose Dace (continued from page 3). . . bulky than the white and brown hair. The black midwing, remember, represents the lateral line of this minnow imitation. The bulk of the midwing should be less than half the white and brown hair. Follow the procedures in step 5 and tie the black hair on top of the white.

7. The overwing of brown bucktail hair should be about the same bulk as the white underwing. Follow the procedures in step 5 and tie the brown hair on top of the black.

8. With the tying thread, build a relatively large neatly tapered head. Whip finish or half hitch the head. Cut away the thread and apply head cement. To make the streamer more pleasingly aesthetic for the angler the head can be epoxied and eyes applied.

Fish the Black Nose Dace when fish are in shallow water but not aggressively devouring aquatic/terrestrial bugs or or when the water is high, cold, or murky.. Fish streamers shallow with floating or sinking-tip lines with longer leaders, or deep with sinking lines and short leaders.

(Ed Note: *Tom regina* is a member of *Flyfishers of Northwest Florida*. This article courtesy of their publication, *Flies and Lies*)

Hogan Lake

(Continued from page 2) . . .not graceful exiting my kayak The last outing Ernie took the club on was for bass, and we had a good day even with the bad weather. This outing was for bream and specks. Ted Mayhew caught an alligator. The weather for this outing was warm and no wind. No complaints about the weather on this trip. There were some small bass caught but not that many. Bream and Specks were the fish most of us caught. Lou Holiday reported catching a Shad. Most of us saw big Carp feeding during the day but none caught that I knew of. All and all we had a good day.



FCFFer Capt. David Borries Tells March Meeting Group How To Read Water. Want to Learn More? Call Capt. Borries And Book A Full-Day Fly Fishing Charter

I fished with a 5-weight rod and a WF floating line. I used a 10 ft. leader with a 6 lb. tippet. I caught all my fish along the shoreline. Casting under branches was a challenge but rewarding. During the morning, we saw a lot of fish feeding on the surface so most of us tied on a popper. I threw the popper for about a half hour with no strikes so I change to a pattern I copied from Jim McCully. I caught a least 15 fish on this fly. I also caught fish on a fly named the Crapie Bug. Both of these flies are weighted and easy to cast with my 5 wt. I ended the day with 3 Specks and 15 + Bream. I love this kind of fishing. Casting a lite rod and small flies under tree branches is fun and challenging. This will help sharpen your casting skills.

All in all it was a good day fishing with good people. Thanks to Ernie and Joyce for hosting this outing. We are all looking forward to the next one.



Hot Flies At Hogan Lake

FCFF Outings Update

APR 29	LOCHLOOSA /ORANGE	BASS
MAY 27	ST. JOHNS PICOLATA	BASS AND BREAM
JUNE 23-24-25	STEINHATCHEE	REDS AND TROUT
JULY 21-22-23	ST. LUCIE	SNOOK AND TROUT
AUG 12	NASSAU SOUND	REDS LOW OR HIGH
SEP 9-10	CEDAR POINT	REDS IN THE GRASS
OCT 7-8	PALM VALLEY	REDS IN THE GRASS
NOV 18	FERNANDINA	REDS AND TROUT
DEC 9 or 16	CUMBERLAND ISLAND	SEATROUT w/ JIM MCCULLY
JAN 20	WHITE SPRINGS	

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3rd Jax Kayak Classic May 19-20 \$40k in Prizes; 2 Kayaks Awarded In Fly Category



JaxKayakFishing.com, will sponsor the **world's largest kayak fishing classic** on May 19-20. The 3rd annual *Jacksonville Kayak Fishing Classic* promotes kayak fishing in Jacksonville with a fun conservation-oriented format and raises funds for children's programs through Daniel Memorial. The premier eco-tourism event also supports the St. Johns Riverkeeper.



Officials expect that more than **200** kayak anglers will target Redfish, Trout, and Flounder in a catch-photo-release format with more than **\$40,000 in prizes and gifts**. Last year's Classic had a world's largest attendance of 170 paddlers with more than \$30,000 in prizes and gifts. The event raised \$7,500 for local children's charities.

The captain's meeting is scheduled for May 19 at Jacksonville's **Strike-Zone Fishing Center**. Check-in, awards ceremonies, and a banquet are set for May 20 at **Sneakers Sports Grille** of Jacksonville Beach. The entry fee is \$60 until April 1 and \$75 after. The fee includes a captain's bag for the first 170 entrants, rights to fish, entry into the raffle and banquet. Anglers will be launching and fishing at any inshore location within Duval, Nassau, and St. John's counties.

Trophies, kayaks, fishing gear and gift certificates will be awarded for first place through fourth place finishers in four open divisions and first place through third place in two fly fishing divisions. Divisions include: the redfish-trout-flounder slam, biggest redfish, biggest trout, biggest flounder, biggest red-on-fly and biggest trout-on-fly. There are also awards for top Jr. Angler, top Lady Angler, a Mystery Fish prize, a raffle for the Best Dang Tackle Box, and a general raffle that includes more than \$15,000 worth of kayaks, equipment and tackle.

Register online at www.JaxKayakfishing.com

For Sale: 12 ft Indian River Square-Back Boat



Good back-of-pick-up or roof rack boat for kayakers and canoeist who want small motorized craft. 12 Foot Boat w/ Tunnel Hull. Good Condition; Little Use. Takes up to 9 hp motor or troller. \$275 or trade for small jon aluminum jon boat. *Trailer not included.* Call David Lambert, 904-241-4163 or 403-5525

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