



FIRST COAST FLY FISHERS

March 2012

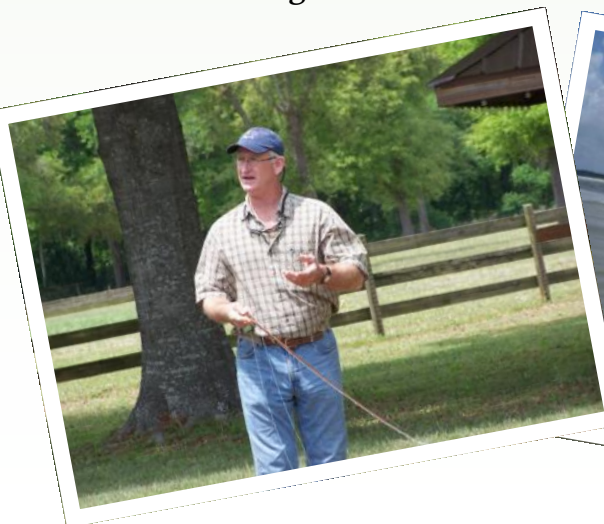
Lifetime Membership Awarded to Lambert and Bottko

The 2012 First Coast Fly Fishers Board of Directors have honored David Lambert and John Bottko with Lifetime Memberships. John and David were bestowed the honor at February's annual banquet. Over the years John and David have contributed tremendously to the success of the Club.

In addition to being a guide and owner of the Salty Feather, John was one of the four original founding members of the Club. According to Club President Rob Benardo, *"John has done more to promote the sport of fly fishing in northeast Florida than any one person."* In recent years John was instrumental in bringing the sport of kayak fishing to the area. Throughout the history of the Club, John has been dedicated to introducing individuals to the sport of fly fishing. Year after year, he and the Salty Feather have contributed time and resources to the Club's annual banquet and other educational events.

David Lambert has been a long-time member of the fly fishing industry. He is a Master Casting Instructor, an outdoor writer, editor and the author of *Smart Casts: The New Approach to Fly Casting & Practice*. As a pro staffer with TFO Rods, Columbia Sportswear and Orvis, he has been instrumental in bringing national exposure to the Club. For numerous years David has been providing casting instruction to each of our members. Additionally, David was the long-time editor of the Club newsletter and web site.

David and John have contributed tirelessly to the Club throughout the years. It is safe to say that the success of the Club is due in no small measure to these two gentlemen. They are the third and fourth recipients to ever be awarded the FCFF Lifetime Membership Award in the 24 year history of the Club. An honor that is greatly deserved by both of them. **Congratulations!**



First Coast Fly Fishers 2012 Officers and Board

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Robert@fcff.org

VP Programs

Seth Nehrke
programs@fcff.org

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outings@fcff.org

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FIRST COAST FLY FISH-
ERS
PO BOX 16260
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32245-

Red Drum and Spotted Seatrout Rule Changes

Red drum and spotted seatrout management changes made by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) at their November 2011 meeting took effect February 1, 2012. Many of these changes mean more angling opportunities, including increased recreational bag limits in some regions and longer spotted seatrout fishing seasons for commercial fishermen.

CHANGES AFFECTING RED DRUM INCLUDE:

- The creation of three management zones (see map) for red drum instead of one statewide management area. The areas represent the northwest, northeast and southern sections of the state's waters;
- Increasing from one to two the number of red drum that a recreational fisherman can take per day in the **Northwest** and **Northwest zones**;
- Establishing a statewide vessel limit of eight red drum;
- Limiting the number of red drum that can be transported in a vehicle on land to six red drum per person.

CHANGES AFFECTING SPOTTED SEATROUT INCLUDE:

- Redefining the areas where spotted seatrout are managed by splitting the state into four management zones instead of three (see map);
- The recreational season will be open year-round statewide (this includes the removal of the February closure in northern Florida, and the November-through-December closure in southern Florida);
- Raising the recreational bag limit in Northeast Florida from five to six;

- Changing commercial seasons based on region lengthening them from three months to five months in the Northwest and Southwest zones (June 1 - Oct. 31 for both) and in the Southeast region (May 1 - Sept. 30), and from three months to six months in the Northeast zone (June 1 - Nov. 30);
- Allowing spotted seatrout to be sold 30 days after the close of the regional commercial season with the proper paperwork;
- Changing the commercial vessel limit to 150 when there are two commercially licensed fishermen aboard.

Both species' rule changes are the result of a successful management strategy.

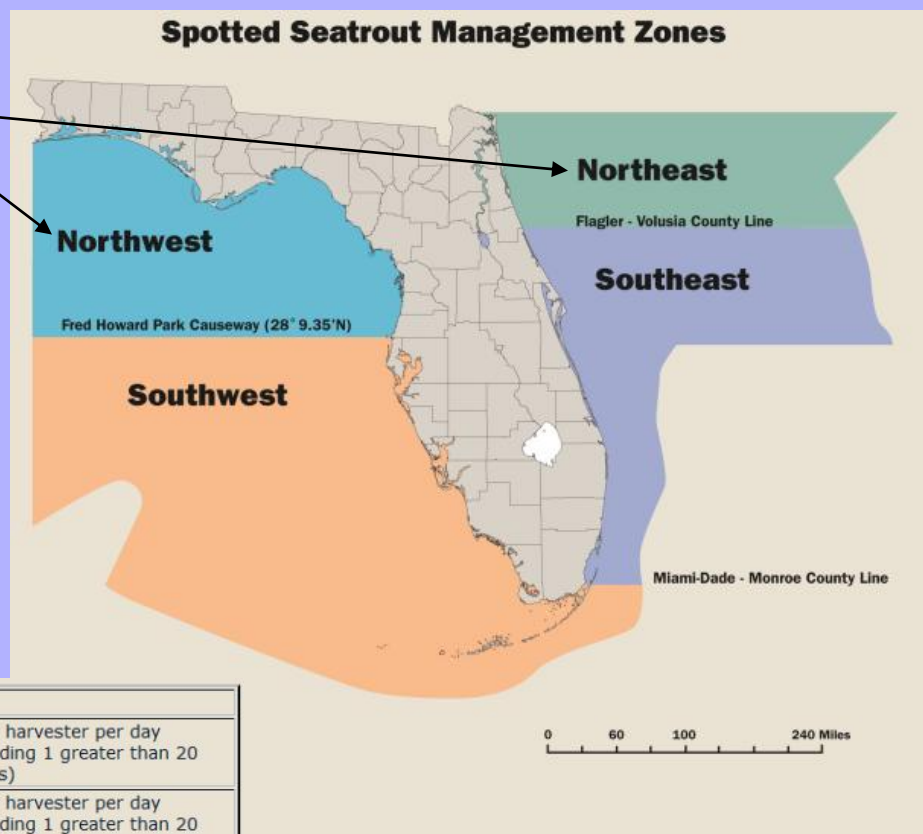
"This is our version of having a listed, protected species and being able to take it off that list. This is a success story," said Commissioner Brian Yablonski about the increased recreational fishing opportunities.

Other recreational red drum and spotted seatrout rules will remain the same.

To learn more about red drum and spotted seatrout recreational fishing, visit: <http://myfwc.com/fishing/saltwater/regulations/>



**Open Season year-round
and
Recreational bag limit
increase from
5 to 6 seatrout per
person.**



	Statewide	Bag Limits	
Size Limit	15-20 inches, total length	Northeast region	6 per harvester per day (including 1 greater than 20 inches)
Season	Open year-round	Northwest region	5 per harvester per day (including 1 greater than 20 inches)
Allowable Gear	Hook and line; cast net	Southern regions	4 per harvester per day (including 1 greater than 20 inches)

**Recreational bag limit increase
from 1 to 2 redfish per
person.**



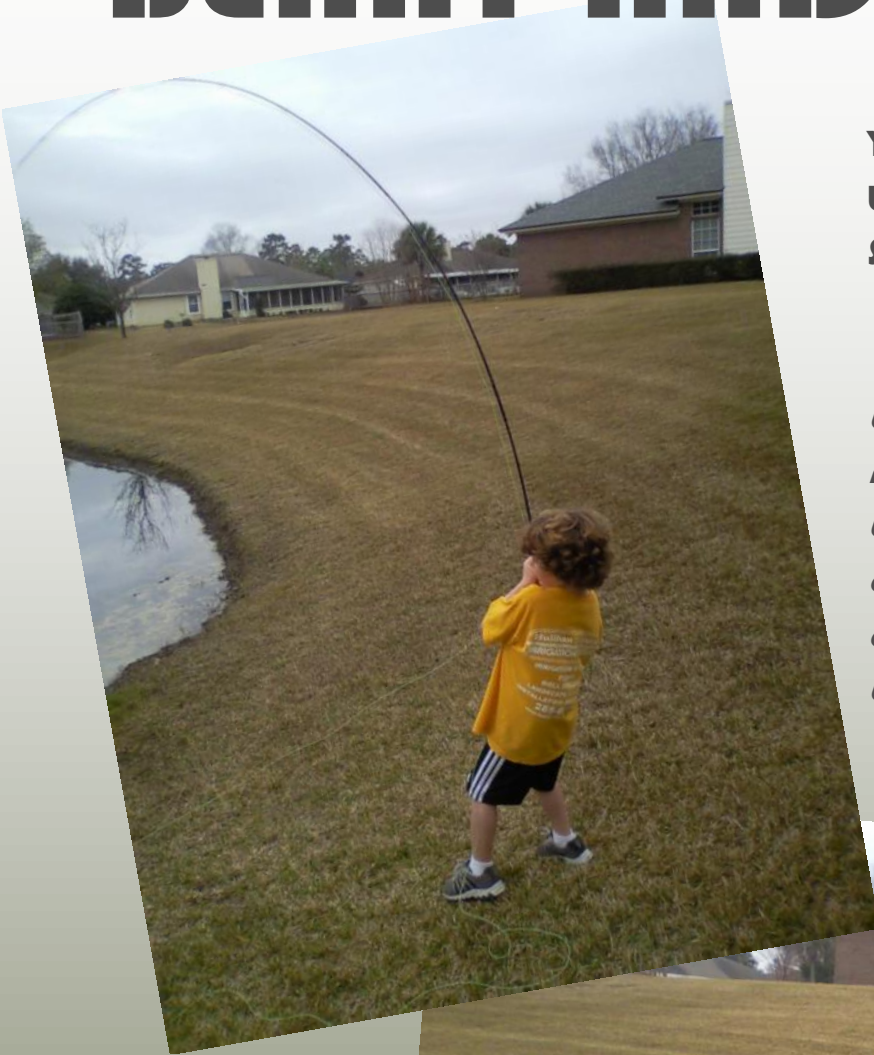
Size Limit	Bag Limit	Remarks
Not less than 18" no more than 27" total length	1 per harvester per day in South Region	Gigging, snatching, spearing and/or use of multiple hooks in conjunction with live or dead natural bait is prohibited
	2 per harvester per day in Northeast and Northwest regions (see map for regions)	Harvest in Federal waters prohibited
	8 fish vessel limit	Must remain in whole condition until landed ashore
	Bag limits apply in areas adjacent to fishing sites such as docks and parking lots*	Commercial harvest prohibited

*6 fish per person transport limit applies when traveling in a vehicle on land away from a fishing site.

BASS ~~BENNY AND THE JETS~~

Young Benny Nehrke has become quite the fly rodder. According to his father Seth...

"We couldn't make the shad outing, but we hit up the detention pond in the neighborhood. Benny had 4 bass on a topwater popper in about an hour!! His casting still needs a bit of work (whose doesn't!) but he can fight fish with the best of them!! "



First Coast Fly Fishers

2012 Meeting/Outing Schedule

Meeting Date	Meeting Guest Speaker ¹	Outing Location ^{2,3}
Mon Jan 9th	Swap Meet	Salt Run
Mon Feb 6th	Mike Head	Shad
Mon March 5th	No Meeting	Lake Delancy
Mon April 2nd	Vaughn Cochran	Full Day Practical Casting With Dave Lambert
Mon May 7th	Jim Romeka	Lott's Fish Fry St. Johns River Bream & Bass
Mon June 4th	Tommy Thompson	Clapboard Redfish
Mon July 2nd	Marsha Fossner	Stewart Florida Snook
Mon Aug 6th	John Turcotte	Cedar Point Reds in the Grass
Mon Sept 10th	Larry Minyard	Palm Valley Reds in the Grass
Mon Oct 1st	Norm Zeigler	Cedar Point Reds in the Grass
Mon Nov 5th	Dave Borries	Sister Creek Redfish
Mon Dec 3rd	Frank Cattino	Mosquito Lagoon

Note:

1. Monthly guest speakers are subject to change based on their availability.
2. Monthly outing locations subject to change based on prevailing weather reports, fishing reports
3. Outing dates to be confirmed later.



Annual FCFF Banquet Featuring Ed Jaworowski Success

There are two annual events that draw members out of the woodwork; the fish fry at the Lott's house and the annual banquet. Once again, Banquet Chairman Jim Fallon and his wife Julie out did themselves. By all accounts this year's banquet was one of the most well attended in recent memory. And it was for good reason too. We had the pleasure of welcoming world-renowned author and fly caster Ed Jaworowski to the Club.

Lefty Kreh calls Ed "*the best teacher of fly casting I have ever known.*" Aside from spending 40 years as a professor of classical studies at Villanova University, Ed spends the majority of his life as a student of fishing and fly casting. He was a tournament surf caster for several years before taking up fly casting under Lefty's guidance. As a university professor, he has access to some of the top physicists, engineers, and kinesiologists academia had to offer. With their help he set out to study the mechanics of fly casting.

Over the years Ed has distilled all the physics and calculus of fly casting down to four basic principals. On the morning of Saturday, February 25th, Club members were invited to M & M Dairy to hear Ed talk about those principals and how to apply them in order to improve their casting. Those members who attended the all-day clinic on Sunday got an in-depth explanation of those principals along with individual casting instruction by Ed.



The highlight of Saturday evening's banquet was Ed's light-hearted presentation on his evolution as a fly fisherman. Ed took us from his humble beginnings growing up in Philadelphia and fishing the Jersey Shore to making a second career out of studying fly casting. Ed has fished all over the world and caught countless species of fresh and saltwater fish.

Jim and Julie Fallon did a tremendous job organizing the banquet and decorating the Marriott's banquet room. The room and tables were decorated in a fly fishing theme. The programs at each place setting highlighted some of the Club's past Fly of the Year recipients. This year's added touch was a simulated waterfall complete with jumping trout. Julie spent numerous hours collecting all of the items used to decorate the banquet room. Jim and Julie would like to thank a number of folks for their help with the banquet including: Cheryl McCormack for assisting with the decorating and running the raffle and silent auction; Mike Harrigan, Scott Shober, Don Edlin and Larry Holder for helping set up and breakdown the banquet room; Jason Sheasley, Rob Benardo and Ken Nimmich for helping to acquire the raffle and auction items; and Michael Fleet and the Marriott Hotel staff for their work behind the scenes. Thank you to everyone who made this year's banquet such a success.



Banquet 2012



Banquet 2012



Thanks!

The success of this year's banquet is due in no small part to the local guides, shops and businesses who contributed to the banquet. This year we were fortunate to have thousands of dollars worth of items for the raffle and silent auction. The money generated during the banquet will be used to support the Club and to continue to provide members with opportunities to learn and experience the best that fly fishing has to offer. Please show your appreciating by patronizing these guides and businesses who have continuously supported our Club.

We offer our sincere thanks to the following businesses:

John and Nancy Bottko of The Salty Feather,
Vaughn and Jean Cochran of the Black Fly Outfitters,
Don Reed of Saltwater Fly Tyers
Joe Butler of Black Creek Outfitters
Temple Fork Outfitters

These shops donated items and allowed us to purchase various auction and raffle items at discounted prices.

We are also grateful to the following guides who donated guide trips for this year's banquet:

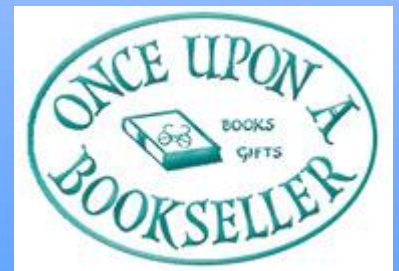
David Borries
Rich Santos
James Dumas
Larry Miniard
John Bottko
David Lambert

These gentlemen have provided guided trips to our banquet every year and are a very large part of the success of the banquet.

Several folks also donated items to this year's banquet. We are thankful for their generosity:

Ernie and Louise Mancile and Once Upon a Book-seller three books
Ken Nimmich for three pocket knives and a Top-spot Map
Gary Burdett for a hunting knife and machete
Ted Mayhew for fishing theme neck ties

Thank you everyone for all your support!



In Memory of Paul England

Paul England had a deep abiding love for fishing and the outdoors. He first joined the First Coast Fly Fishers last spring shortly after being diagnosed with lung and brain cancer. Regrettably, he lost his seven month battle with the disease on November 1st. He was 55.

Thanks to the generosity of his family, Paul's memory will live on with the Club. Paul was a consummate fly tyer. His family donated his tying station and tools, assorted boxes of flies tied by Paul and several vintage bass plugs to be raffled off at this year's banquet. It is fitting that a box of forty-some flies tied by Paul was won by our guest speaker, Ed Jaworoski. His family also donated several books to the Club's library and tying materials to our inventory. We thank them for their generosity.

We are each drawn to fly fishing for various reasons. For some, it is the challenge, for others it is connection to the environment and still for others it is one of many



Paul scouting out new fishing locations

methods to pursue our angling passion. However, we all share one thing in common and this is how special it is to spend time on the water. The next time you find yourself on the water, think of Paul and remember how blessed we are to share in this sport.

Strange Night Fishing

By Donn McKinnon

Dick Michaelson and I went night dock fishing for seatrout out of Palm Valley Thursday, May 8th. High tide was a 5.5 at 10:56 PM and the moon was full. There were more lights than normal lit up along the ditch and the bluefish were everywhere. However, they were small and tore up our delicate trout flies. If we put on a bite tippet the few trout we caught would stop biting at all

It was an exercise in putting on old flies and new tippets. Nothing was of any size to brag about. We did catch lots of fish and the full moon made navigation easy. We saw no other boats.

We were fishing behind the restaurant halfway toward JTB and something bit hard and furiously kept hitting and breaking off our tippets. Finally I hooked one (by the tail) which took my six weight to the back-



ing and ran all over the river. We finally netted the critter which looked more like an eel than a fish. Dick said it looked like a ribbonfish. It had half-inch long teeth like needles which managed to get caught in the net. It was very sleek looking and shiny and looked like the tail was missing. I looked it up when I got home and found out it was actually an Atlantic cutlassfish. It is apparently a type of perch.

Tying the Pearly Bugger



The Woolly Bugger is so effective, it should be banned from some watersheds. I suspect its effectiveness is due to its resemblance to so many edible creatures in the water--nymphs, leeches, salamanders, or even small sculpins. Its tail undulating behind a fiber, bubble-filled body is just too much for most fish to resist. It just looks like a meal!

Bill Hunter, The Professionals' Favorite Flies

Origin

Although the original Woolly Bugger pattern was believed to have been created by Russell Blessing, Pennsylvania Fly Tyer as early as 1967 to resemble a hellgrammite, or Dobsonfly nymph, its precise origin is unknown, but is clearly an evolution of the Woolly Worm fly,[3] which itself is a variation—intentional or not—of the British palmer fly, which dates back to Walton and beyond.[citation needed]

Imitates

The Woolly Bugger, depending the specific material used and how it is fished can be assumed to resemble large nymphs, baitfish, leech, drowning terrestrial insects, clamworms, crayfish, shrimp or crabs

Materials

The Woolly Bugger fly is constructed with a marabou tail (with or without some sort of flashy material in the tail, a chenille or fur body, and a hackle palmered from the tail to the head of the fly. Tying the pattern with a rib helps protect the palmer hackle. The underbody may be weighted with lead or tungsten wire.

Popular colors are olive, brown, and black for freshwater use. Brighter colors and combinations of colors are especially popular for steelhead, salmon and salt water use.

Variations and Sizes

Woolly Bugger flies are typically tied on number 2 to 14

long or extra long hooks. Variations include Woolly Buggers weighted with brass or tungsten beads, brass or tungsten cones, brass, lead or tungsten dumbbell eyes.

From Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Woolly_Bugger

Pearly Bugger Recipe

HOOK:	4XL Streamer Hook, size 6 to 12
WEIGHT:	Brass or tungsten cone of desired size
THREAD:	6/0 to match body
TAIL:	Marabou to match body and pearl krysal flash
BODY:	Medium pearl chenille in desired color
HACKLE:	Palmered grizzly or same color as body
RIB:	Fine gold wire
LEGS:	Sili legs

1. Slide cone onto hook up to eye. Attach thread behind the eye and wind to the bend.



2. Secure marabou feather at the bend. Wrap over butts to behind cone, cut excess marabou and wrap thread back to the bend.



3. Attach 6-8 strands of crystal flash along each side of the tail. Attach wire rib at the bend, long end to the rear.



4. Attach saddle hackle at the bend by the tip. Strip about 1/4" of chenille and attach at the bend. Wind the thread to mid-shank and attach one leg on each side. Wind thread to rear of cone.



5. Coat shank with head cement and wrap chenille forward, one wrap between legs, and secure at rear of cone. Cut excess.



6. Palmer the hackle forward in widely spaced turns to the cone, with one wrap between legs. Secure and cut excess hackle. Wind the wire forward in the same number of turns as the hackle. Secure and cut excess wire.



7. Whip finish, cut excess thread and cement.

The wooly bugger and its variants (both fresh and salt water) is a versatile fly that every fly fisher should carry in their fly box. What is more, it is a relatively simple fly to tie. It is an excellent fly for beginner tiers to learn. Tying it requires several rudimentary tying skills that every fly tyer should master.

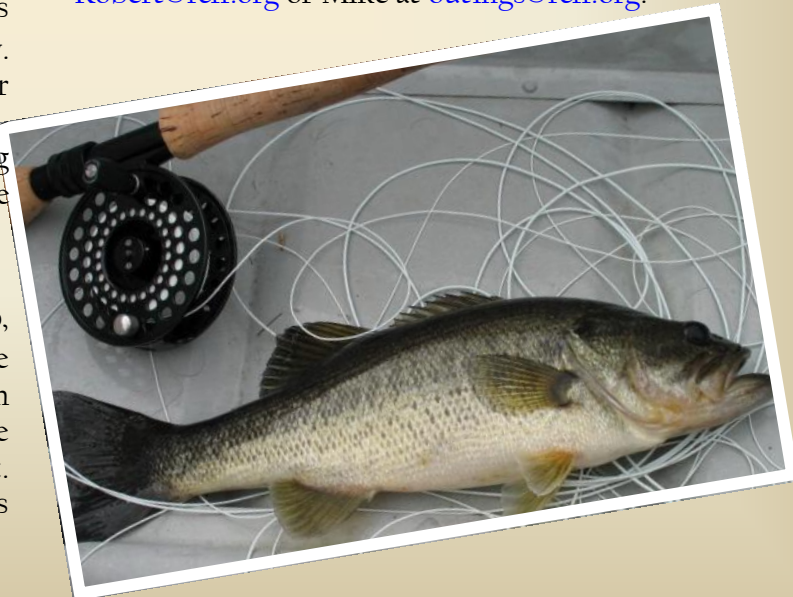
March 24th Outing

This month the First Coast Fly Fishers will welcome spring by targeting bass and bream in central Florida. The warm, mild winter means that bass will be bedding earlier and the bream will be stirring. This will be the Club's first freshwater outing of the year. It is also an opportunity to tie up a dozen Pearl Buggers.

On March 24th we will be heading to the head waters of the St Johns River to fish either the Lake Delancy. Many folks are familiar with the Rodman Reservoir and its reputation as an excellent bass fishery. Lake Delancy, a small lake located north of Silver Glen Spring off of Highway 19, is known for producing trophy-size bass year after year.

This is a relatively new outing location for the Club, however several members have had success fishing the lake. The 1,300-acre lake is located near the northern tip of the Ocala National Forest. The eastern half of the lake is shallow with average depths from 5 to 10 feet. The western half is a vast grass flat with water depths in the 4 to 5 feet range.

This outing will require that you have a canoe, kayak or boat to fish either of the lakes. If you don't have a boat and want to attend the outing be sure to let us know. We will make sure you get paired up with someone who has a boat. More information regarding the outing will be forthcoming via email. In the meantime, if you have any questions contact Rob at Robert@fcff.org or Mike at outings@fcff.org.





COSTA
PRESENTS...

2012 FLY FISHING FILM TOUR



SCHEDULE
TICKETS
TRAILERS

the
f3t
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OUTDOOR
CHANNEL
PRESENTED IN HD

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HARDY
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COOLERS
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mountain
HARDWARE

TROUT
UNLIMITED

EL PESCADOR
BOUTIQUE

The
Drake

YELLOW DOG
FISHING
HARDWARE

Tuesday April 3, 2012 at 7:00 PM Five Points Theater, Jacksonville, Florida
Tickets On Sale at *Black Fly Outfitter* \$12/Ticket
www.flyfilmtour.com