



THE FLYFISHER NEWSLETTER

June 2025

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The end of this month will see many of our favourite fishing spots closed until October but in the Rotorua region, a number of great lakefront spots remain open with the prospects of catching some excellent specimens. These spots, by virtue of their generally open surroundings, would be perfect for the learners and “new chums” in our ranks to develop and enhance casting skills with the very real possibility of hooking up!

On Lake Rotorua itself, the mouth of the Ngongotaha stream is an easily fished spot where large numbers of fish hold during the day before moving upstream after dark to spawn in the upper reaches. Rainbows tend to dominate numbers but there are always some large brown trout as well.

On Lake Rotoiti, there are a number of places. At Ruato (2 streams), fish congregate along the beachfront and while you can actually cast from the grass, it is better to wade out but remember to always “fish your feet first”. On a number of occasions, I have seen over enthusiastic anglers wade out to deeper water only for others to hook up in the shallower water behind them!

Directly opposite Ruato Bay is the turnoff to Lake Okataina. This road ascends up the old volcanic escarpment before leading down a relatively straight carriageway through mature Tawa forest to the lake edge. The beach front provides very easy casting and in bright conditions, the fish can be seen quietly cruising up and down. This spot can be particularly productive in periods of heavy rain when runoff from the nearby carpark creates “false” streams which attract the fish.

Further around the edge of Lake Rotoiti, The roadway deviates from the main highway along to a dead end. This small neighbourhood is known as Hinehopu where there is a drain and raised pipe allowing water from a swamp area to flow into the lake during major rain events. Once again, this additional flow is very attractive to fish which are “lured” closer to shore.

Following on along the main road, one passes through a bush area called “Hongi’s Track” at the end of which, you can turn left on a basic vehicle track down to the edge of Lake Rotoehu. A shallow arm of the lake can be fished from this point but be aware that footing can be a bit suspect with soft ground underfoot.

The last lake in this chain is Lake Rotoma, famous for its very clear water and from an angler’s viewpoint, significant, as there is an annual release of Tiger Trout from the Ngongotaha hatchery. These are a cross between Brown and Brook Trout which are sterile but can grow to impressive proportions and have beautiful colouration. My favourite spot on Lake Rotoma is an area called Oneroa Beach, just before the point where the roadway leaves the lake edge and continues on towards Kawerau. A scramble down the bank places you on a narrow beach and from the road edge above large fish can often be seen “pairing up”. Polaroid glasses certainly help here with any glare!

Finally and closer to Rotorua, is the famous Lake Tarawera where I have spent many productive hours over the years. Immediately at the main road end is the Landing and small wharf while short walk to the left brings you to the Orchard stream. A very small flow

which nonetheless brings fish close in. I caught my first 4.5kg rainbow at this point and it is also where I first met fellow club member and “Tarawera veteran”, Hans Sabrowski about 40 years ago. Hans continues to fish Tarawera regularly, particularly Rangiuru Bay and I’m sure he would be happy to give some helpful direction to interested club members. Summing up, while many areas of our fishing options are closed over winter, Rotorua lake edges offer many different options. In terms of “best flies”, during daytime I have generally used a sinking line and a brightly coloured “muppet” on a short leader while after dark, either a large black fly or a luminous fly fished on a floating line has always produced results. Tight Lines everyone!

Dave Symes - President.



Steve, getting in some time at one of Dave’s spots listed above. Photo courtesy of Steven Charles.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

Some of you will already know that the Club has a Facebook Page. It has been underutilized for a while and this is just a reminder to those who already know and information for those who didn’t know until now. The link is below, and also on the Clubs Website

<https://nsff.org.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/217979378948826/members>

Please do join the page and post away, it really is a case of every post will encourage others to post and before we know it the Club will have a thriving online presence.

FISHING REPORT

Auckland / Waikato



The wind was howling but that didn't stop the fish from biting! Andrew with a lovely 3pd Coromandel Rainbow. Photo courtesy of Andrew MacPherson.

It was a very pleasant surprise to see the river up but not dirty on a recent trip to the Coromandel, and the fish, of all sizes, were in a hungry mood. Best flies, small Pheasant Tails and small Black nymphs.

Rotorua

As Dave mentioned above, the winter shoreline fishing in the Rotorua region can be spectacular, and Hans is an expert at catching fish down there. He favours after dark and smaller flies but it can be feast or famine, with one spot giving up nothing and the next turning it on big time.



This was a case of 'feast' for Hans. Fantastic, fat fish in prime condition. Photo courtesy of Hans Sabrowski.

The recent rains have caused 2 solid floods in the Rotorua tributaries and combined with the colder weather has seen a solid increase in fish numbers. Flies of choice, Glo Bugs and small Yoshi X-Factor nymphs.

Taupo

Taupo has now had 2 once in 5 year floods in rapid succession. Having 2 floods so close together, with no time for the rivers to settle down, is normally a sure sign of pool changes.

It should also bring some major runs of fresh fish up the rivers. NOW would be a great time to head down there if you can.



Lloyd on the Whakapapa getting a bit of 'swinging' in before that river closes for the spawning season. Photo courtesy of Mike Martindale.

Saltwater

No reports from the Salt unfortunately.

Fishy Tales

- If you do have a report, success story, or anecdote to share then just send it to iconpromote@gmail.com . Happy Fishing and Tight Lines – Freddy Da Fish.

LAST CLUB NIGHT

Last month we had Johan Kok talking to us. It was a very informative evening and thank you once again Johan.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT – 18th JUNE 7.30 PM

This month we have Brian Wilson talking to us about all things Central Plateau. Brian is a long term Guide based in Turangi and has been fly fishing for more years than he cares to remember. He is one of those fishers that can catch fish anywhere.

This is sure to be an enjoyable night and we look forward to seeing you there.

WHY WE FISH

"I spent most of my money on fishing. The rest I wasted."

A.N. Other

CHANGES TO CONTACT DETAILS

Committee members organising club trips and similar events are finding that the phone and email information that we hold for some members has become out of date. If you have changed your address, landline number, mobile number or email address in the last year or so and have not passed the new details on to NSFF, could you please advise Barrie Barnes by email, his email address is barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi .

FISHING BUDDIES SOUGHT

The intention is to display a list of names of Club Members that are keen on finding a 'buddy' to go fishing with, either on a regular basis or just for a day. In essence it's a fly-fishing dating service...

Name	Availability	Contact Details
Ron Blair	Anytime, has a 14.4 Marco with 60hp etec Evenrude for serious fishing Salt or Fresh	home 09 834 8841 mobile 0275 006 336 ron.blair@xtra.co.nz
Graham Carter	Lives in Hamilton, keen on weekday / mid-week trips.	021 026 00437 07 855 1833
Lloyd Altham	Has 12' Pontoon boat /15 HP Honda. Available most time, but prefer weekdays.	Mob. 021 0295 9167 Home 09 420 3120 email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz
Gary Bolstad	Keen to get out Stream, Lake or even Saltwater fly-fishing. Has both Fish & Game and Taupo season licences so keen to go almost anywhere. Retired so free to go most of the time.	Mobile 022 379 3070 gd.bolstad@gmail.com
Derek Robinson	Retired available most times keen to do Waikato streams and most other things.	Ph 4437311 Mob: 0212 595 371 pamanddek@outlook.com

CLUB TROPHIES

Brown Trout Trophy – This is awarded to The Heaviest Brown Trout caught by a Club Member during the year – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Fikrit Chinassi**.

Chain Snore Trophy – A fun award given immediately after any Club Trip to the person who has done the ‘funniest’ thing over the weekend. If nobody has had anything like this happen it may be awarded to the worst snorer. Current Holder is **Steven Burgess!**

Ian Hunt Memorial Trophy – Heaviest Trout caught fly-fishing by a Club Member during the Pupuke Challenge Competition. A competition run every year to promote the Lake Pupuke fishery. This was not held this year. Current holder is **Lucas Bathurst**.

I Love Flyfishing Trophy – Awarded to the Club Member who has caught the most species of Saltwater fish fly-fishing over the year – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Russell Nelson**.

Rodd And Gunn Trophy – This is the Club Competition which takes place over two days. One day on a Lake and one day on a River. The Winner this year is **Duncan Frew**.

The Lake part of the competition has its own Trophy, the **I Love Flyfishing Stillwater Trophy**. The winner of this year’s event is **Duncan Frew**.

The winner of this year’s River section is **Duncan Frew**.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"...buying a fly rod in the average city store, that is, joining it up and safely wagging it a bit, is much like seeing a woman's arm protruding from a car window: all one can readily be sure of is that the window is open."

Robert Traver



Looking downstream from the picturesque Sand Pool on the Tongariro. Photo courtesy of Michel Luo.

BROWN TROUT TROPHY” COMPETITION RULES

Winning fish will be determined by weight.

Verification by partner where possible and/or by photograph.

Details to be provided to any committee member.

Competition period April 1st to March 31st . Prize awarded at AGM in April.

Winner’s name and weight of fish to be published in May club newsletter.

NSFF CLUB SALT WATER FLY FISHING COMPETITION RULES

The “essence” of the competition is to encourage club member participation and in the process, to award a winner’s trophy to the individual who catches the greatest number of salt water species. It will run from 1st April in one year to 31st March in the next year with the trophy awarded at the following AGM. For the full rules please refer to the Club Website www.nsff.org.nz

NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS DVD LIBRARY

Over the years the Club has purchased some videos and been very fortunate in having a number more donated for Club Members use. There is almost certainly something there that will appeal to you. So if you would like to borrow one just let any Committee Member know (contact details are on the back page of this Newsletter).

Club Videos

Flyfishing with Dave McLellan June 2015 (15 DVD's)
New Zealand FlyTying (with John Giacon) A Tight Lines Ltd Presentation (2 DVD's)
Tie A Fly with John Morton The Master Fly Tier
Blue Water Fishing Techniques (ITM Fishing Show) Matt Watson
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 6) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 7) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
Running Down The Man A Felt Soul Media Production
Advanced Fly Casting Doug Swisher Essence of Fly Casting
Chasing Silver (Tarpon fishing in Florida) Howard Films. Com
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 1 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 2 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Small Stillwaters Part 2 Stalking Patterns and Techniques
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume I Nelson District-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume 2 West Coast-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures The Distant Browns of Emerald-Mike Kirkpatrick
The Manic Guide to Fly Casting Rene Vaz
Fly Fishing in NZ
Stealth with a Fly-NZ Wilderness waters Dean Bell Fly Fishing
SoulFish 2 Global fly fishing Adventures with April Vokey and others
Gulf Harbour Outdoors with Geoff Thomas NZ fly fishing for Trout and Salmon
Salt Water Fly Fishing Game Fishing
Bugs of the Underworld Lisa Cutter
NZ Fly Fishing MP4s Youtube Video's (4 discs)
Snapper Secrets (vol 2)
Fly Fishing in NZ (fishing Clips from Mobil Sport on TV3)
How to Fish Rapala Lures
Essential Patterns with Oliver Edwards Vol 1
Fly Fishing For Reservoir Trout (at Pitsford) Bob Church
Trout Secrets with Geoff Thomas
Fishing in Fiordland
Wee Wets and Small Dries

CLUB TRIPS 2025 - 2026

February –Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes –FEB 2026
March – Lake Otamangakau – MAR 2026
May – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes –MAY 2026

July – Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo – JUL 18th 19th 20th 2025
August – Tongariro – Club River Fishing Competition – 15th 16th 17th AUG 2025
September – Tauranga Taupo – SEP 11th 12th 13th 2025
November – Lake based Club Competition Trip – NOV 2025
December / January – Tuition weekend (Held if enough 'novice' anglers are interested)
December – Lake Otamangakau – 27th 28th 29th NOV 2025

The NSF committee arrange various Club Trips over the year to different parts of the country. If you would like to be involved, or have an idea for a trip please let one of your committee know.

JULY CLUB TRIP TO TURANGI

This year's Turangi Club Trip is again being organized by Maurice Parlane and will take place on Friday 18th , Saturday 19th July and return on Sunday 20th July.

The Club has booked out several units at Tongariro River Motel and costs will be \$115 per person. This will include 2 nights accommodation on a shared unit basis and a slap up BBQ dinner on the Saturday night. There are fish cleaning facilities, an electric overnight smoker, multiple BBQ's and a quick hot smoker.

Also, a number of people choose to come down on the Thursday night (17th July) as well. If you do this just add \$50 to the cost.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Trip please contact Maurice ASAP as this is always a popular weekend. Maurice's contact details are as follows: mobile 021 650 692, or e-mail to: maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz

If you are a definite starter just let Maurice know which nights you can make ASAP and then pay your money to the Club.

- internet banking to the Club's bank account: North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated
ASB A/c #: 12-3209-0190179-00 (please include your name and the word Turangi as a reference);



Come on this Trip and you could well be catching the above...3 prime eating Rainbows taken from a smaller Taupo tributary on last years Club Trip. Photo courtesy of Peter Schierhout.

TURANGI INTERCLUB COMPETITION TRIP - AUGUST

The Club Competition Trip for River Fishing and the Interclub Competition with the Auckland Fly-fishing Club is scheduled for August 15th 16th 17th August. This is a fun competition and the Trip is open to everyone, regardless of whether you want to compete or not.

More information about this will be forthcoming closer to the event but if you would like to know more now please contact Allen French 021 1018 838 or a_bfrench@hotmail.com



Lewis in action and hooked up with Simon about to do the netting during the Club Comp last year. Photo courtesy of Johan Kok.

KERERU LODGE TAURANGA TAUPO TRIP – SEPTEMBER

This is a fantastic Trip and will be booked out quickly, so if you are keen let Maurice know asap. We will be staying at the Kereru Lodge at the top of the Tauranga Taupo River, just out of Turangi. The Lodge is based near the upper winter limit pools on the river and is often booked out a year in advance. Thank you to Maurice Parlane for organising this again!

There are 12 beds available in shared accommodation and the costs will be \$82.50 per night each and we have the ability to stay for 3 nights.

The dates are the nights of Thursday 11th Friday 12th Saturday 13th September and out on Sunday the 14th.

Maurice is running the Trip so if you are interested contact him on Mob: 021 650 692 or email: maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz and let him know. But do so quickly.



The lads from last years Trip, enjoying a good meal and good company. Photo courtesy of Jaco du Preez.

FOR SALE

Barrie has decided to sell his Fyran Pro 17 and would like it to go to a good home. With that in mind he is offering it to any Club Member at \$5000 which is half of what the value is estimated to be.

BOAT – Fyran Pro 17
Year – 1994
Engine – 70hp Yamaha

*“Engine recon by Silverdale Marine and since then has only done no more than 3 hours.”
“Hoskings refurbished the trailer last year.”*

"Refurbished fuel system."

"Marine radio as shown has been replaced by Cobra Hand Held and aerial removed."

"New floor replaces one shown."



JOKE OF THE MONTH

The wine taster at an old vineyard had retired.
A homeless guy, looking ragged and dirty, came to apply and somehow he persuaded the manager to give him a try.
The guy was given a glass of wine. He swirled, smelled, sipped and spit and immediately said, "It's a red wine, Merlot, three years old, grown on the South Slope and matured in oak barrels."
"Impressive," said the manager.
The man is given another. "Still a red wine, Cabernet, eight years old, from the Northeast slope, stored in a steel vat."
The manager was amazed. He winked at his secretary. The secretary understood and brought out a glass of urine.
The drunkard tasted it and said, "It's a blonde, 27 years old, three months pregnant, and if I don't get this job, I'll tell who the father is!"

TIPS AND TRICKS

At an earlier Club Meeting we had a session all about Tips and Tricks that we might choose to use with our fishing. With that in mind we will use this section for any helpful little Tips that anyone may have that can benefit us all. So, if you have a quick Tip that you are happy to share just let me know on iconpromote@gmail.com.

- 1) Wader Safety - Think before you cross a river, yes I can cross but how will I get back?

FISH AND GAME LINKS

Fishing access maps

If you are travelling around the country or even if you are staying close to home, Fish & Game has updated our online access maps.

You can check out the links on this [page](#) for where you intend to fish this season. We have loads of locations for anglers around the country for you to get in a bit of fishing. Have a look; you might be surprised to find a spot close to you that you never knew existed.

Trout fishing made easy

Our [YouTube channel](#) has heaps of helpful videos that will help you catch fish.

We have everything from [Five Quick Tips for River Fishing](#) to [Lake Fishing](#) and our popular [boat fishing video](#). There are also many other videos on lures, soft baits and fishing locations that can provide tips and tricks for anglers of all skill levels.

CLUB DAY TRIPS, FLYTYING, AND CASTING PACTICE

We have set up 4 Whats Ap Groups for Freshwater Day Trips / Salt Water Day Trips / Casting Practice / and Flytying. We have had several Day Trips, Fly Casting sessions and Flytying sessions already.

If you are keen to join these groups just let us know.

Contact secretary@nsff.org.nz or Duncan iconpromote@gmail.com Mike

The 'boys' on the first Freshwater Day Trip. Photo courtesy of Johan Kok.



IMPORTANT UPDATE: MINISTER ANNOUNCES FISH & GAME REFORMS

Minister for Hunting and Fishing James Meager has today announced significant reforms aimed to modernise and strengthen Fish & Game New Zealand. He wanted Fish & Game to share this with you.

[Watch Minister Meager explain the reforms](#) and read his [media release here](#).

The Minister says these changes will improve the national management of hunting and fishing resources while maintaining local control over your regional fishing and hunting rules.

"I want to make it as easy as possible for Kiwis to go hunting and fishing in New Zealand," James Meager said. "This long overdue reform will refocus Fish & Game on its core job of managing our sport fishing and game bird resources."

The Minister highlighted that licence holders spend up to \$138 million on fishing annually, and our hunting and fishing resources draw tourists from around the globe.

"It is important to our economy that Fish & Game is a well-functioning, highly effective and efficient organisation," he said.

Previous reviews have identified long-standing issues which the Minister said must be addressed.

The Reforms Include:

A new standalone Fish & Game Act

Nationalised licence fee collection through the New Zealand Council

Clearer roles between national and regional councils, with regions focusing on delivering hunting and fishing opportunities on the ground

Expanded voting eligibility for licence holders

Binding national advocacy policies with restricted court proceedings

Requirements to better consider interests of other stakeholders like farmers and aviation

OUR RESPONSE

Fish & Game is committed to working constructively through this change process. Our vision remains unchanged - healthy freshwater habitats and species, thriving hunting and fishing traditions, and the opportunity for all Kiwis to enjoy access to sustainable wild fish and game resources.

Importantly, your regional Fish & Game Council will retain decision-making authority over local species and habitat management, including setting seasons, bag limits, and fishing and hunting conditions through Anglers and Game Notices.

What This Means For You

The Minister wants his reforms to deliver benefits for licence holders:

Better Value For Money - You'll get improved hunting and fishing experiences and opportunities, with efficiency savings from reduced duplication.

Greater Representation - More licence holders will be eligible to vote and stand in Fish & Game elections (including partners of family licence holders), giving you better representation in decision-making

More Focused Service - Regional councils can concentrate on what matters most to you: improving hunting and fishing opportunities in your area

Professional Standards - A more credible, efficient organisation that complies with modern governance standards

Improved Transparency - You'll have clearer information on how your licence fees are spent and what's being achieved for your benefit

How you buy your licence won't change - you'll still purchase online, by phone, at our offices, or through regional agents.

More Information

Read the full [fact sheet](#)

We'll keep you updated as the legislation progresses through Parliament later this year.

Tight lines and good hunting, ***Richie Cosgrove - New Zealand Fish & Game Council Acting Chief Executive***

WADING SAFETY

Tips For Anglers In The Taupo Region

Taupo Fishery © Department of Conservation Tongariro Taupo Conservancy Taupo Fishery Area June 2005

What To Do If You Fall Into A River

- Stay calm.
- Roll over onto your back.
- Keep your feet downstream of your body.
- Keep your toes out of the water.
- Use your arms in a manner that holds you in this position.
- Use your arms in a sculling motion and kick your feet to propel yourself towards the edge.
- Focus on an exit point.
- Avoid being swept into obstructions like trees where you risk being pinned underwater.
- Go with the flow until you come to a suitable place to get out.



Feet should point downstream and arms used in a sculling motion. It is better to hit an obstruction with your feet than your head. Photo: DOC

Wading At Stream And River Mouths

- Look at the area you will be wading into during daylight hours before attempting to wade at night. Push a tall stick into the sand where you would like to wade to during the day, so that when it is dark it will give you guidance.
- Be aware that river and stream mouths can change very quickly and can be soft and boggy when silt has been washed down after heavy rain.
- Check with local anglers to find out if there is a steep drop-off. Or prod the sand with a stick during the day to find the drop-off. Note that drop-offs at river mouths can be very soft and if you stand right on the edge, it will just give way.
- Always wear a wading belt.
- If you go over the drop-off don't try to swim back against the current. Instead, adopt the position shown and scull yourself to the side of the current so you can then reach the beach. Wherever you go fishing in the Taupo region, keep yourself safe. Do not enter the water if you are at all unsure.



Strong winds and large waves can change a river or stream mouth quickly. Check where drop-offs are with local anglers, or check the Mouth during the day before wading there at night. Photo: DOC

Fishing in rivers in the Taupo region can mean wading into deep water at river mouths, or making river or stream crossings. Losing your footing when wading can be potentially hazardous and anglers can get into situations where injury or even death is a very real outcome. All anglers should have a healthy respect for water and before heading out should tell someone where they intend to fish and how long they intend to be.

It is not always necessary to wade in order to fish successfully. If you are unsure about your wading ability, and you lack confidence in the water, don't wade! Look for suitable pools to fish that can be reached from the riverbank or by using thigh waders to go into the water to knee-depth. Linking arms with a fellow angler to cross a river will give you added stability, but you should proceed with caution. However, it's Acknowledged that to reach some of the best pools and lies, wading is often required and so this brochure is designed to give simple tips to help anglers to wade safely.

Consider What Are You Wearing

- Wear a wading belt. These can be bought from sports stores and are reasonably priced. Wearing a wading belt tightly around your midriff or chest helps to prevent water entering the lower half of waders and assists you to float.
- Waders should fit properly – the correct shoe size, not too long or short in the leg and the correct size around the torso.
- You need warm clothing to decrease the chance of exposure / hypothermia if completely wet. Fast drying polypropylene, polar fleece or merino wool thermals are recommended under waders during the winter.
- Wearing a jacket over waders also limits water entry.

- Take a wading stick. This could be as simple as a piece of wood found alongside the river, or a metal pole with a grip handle similar to a ski pole. Wading sticks provide stability when held upstream during river crossings.
- Wear polaroid glasses as they cut the glare and allow you to see obstacles below the water.
- Purpose-built fishing vests may have a ripcord which when pulled in an emergency, inflate the jacket to assist buoyancy.



We strongly recommend the use of a wading belt. They ensure buoyancy and keep you afloat. Photo: DOC

Where Are You Going To Fish?

- Familiarise yourself with the surrounding area.
- What is the speed and depth of the water in the area?
- Can you safely wade there?
- What is the safest entry point?
- Can you cross back if necessary?
- Look at what is below the surface where you choose to enter. Identify downstream hazards such as trees, rocks, rapids, waterfalls. If you fall in and float downstream will you end up in a gentle pool or a rocky rapid?
- Where is the nearest exit point if you get into trouble?
- When you exit, what are you then going to do? What is your rescue / emergency plan?



Large rapids and white water can be negotiated if a wading belt is worn. Photo: DOC

What To Look For

- Sand on the bottom indicates areas of low water velocity and provides good footing.
- Large cobbles can provide good footing if scoured clean but will be treacherous if covered in algae.
- If the water is too deep you are likely to begin to float and lose your footing.
- Avoid crossing where you cannot see the bottom.

When Crossing

- It is best to cross diagonally downstream in shallow riffles.
- Keep your body side-on to the current to brace yourself and reduce water pressure.



Check for hazards downstream (e.g. rapids, rocks, trees). If you are at all unsure, do not enter the water. Often good fishing pools can be reached from the edge in thigh waders, with a skilled cast. Photo: Rob Hood, DOC

INDICATOR THOUGHTS | THREE TIPS FOR BETTER INDICATOR NYMPHING

The following article is by Chris Dore and taken from the Manic Tackle Website <https://www.manictackleproject.com/>



"If it so much as twitches, set that hook!"

Many anglers rely far too much on [the indicator](#) dipping before lifting the rod. Remember, especially when there's a greater distance between your fly and indicator that by the time your fluff moves, the fish has probably already had that fly in its mouth for quite some time. Sometimes it will check in its drift, sometimes it may simply slow, or even just tilt. If your indicator does anything but drift naturally with the flow, set that hook!

THREE QUICK TIPS FOR BETTER INDICATOR NYMPHING

1. Always set your indicator as close as you can get away with to your flies as depth, flow, water clarity and fly weight allow. When you need to rig it closer in clear conditions, consider a hi viz dry as a less conspicuous option to a bright hunk of yarn.



2. Keep your rod tip as low as the drift allows and retrieve any line with shorter, faster strips. This will increase your strike time and ensure your hands are closer together, ready for that hook set than if your hands are spread wide apart at the end of a long strip. And keep that line beneath your trigger finger will you?



3. We all want that perfect slack line presentation to get our flies drifting just so. However, remember the more slack you have outside of the rod tip, the more you need to remove before you make contact on the hook set. Keep your slack manageable and prepare to strike fast. Remove slack with a low, horizontal set of the rod tip and set the hook with a haul from the line hand.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Chris Dore is a battle-tested fly fishing guide with over 20 years of professional guiding experience, battling the demanding, ever-changing conditions that our New Zealand rivers throw at us.

In 2006 Chris became one of the first New Zealanders to successfully pass the internationally recognised Federation of Fly Fishers Certified Casting Instructors examination and has since taught many thousands of anglers to up their skillset.

For more in person and on river fly fishing advice and upskilling why not [book Chris for a day or three?](#)

POST-FLOOD A GOOD TIME FOR TROUT - FLY FISHING HIGH MURKY WATER

By Ben Hope

This article was taken from the NZFFA Website - <https://nzffa.com/>

Yes, you can still catch fish when rivers have just had a good flood.

Fish gotta eat but they don't want to expend energy fighting that torrent of the main current. So they stay close to the edges. The friction of the water meeting the banks of the stream, retards speed of water so along the edges can be much slower than out in the middle. Fish the Edges

The existence of a trout is basically about consuming as opposed to conserving energy. Fighting against that strong flow burns up energy for a fish. When the streams are swollen, trout in order to escape that surging current, instinctively move to the edges, sometimes just a metre or two off the banks. You may not even have to wade during high water events because the fish will be holding more towards the bank than the middle strong flow.

Sometimes while the main river is flooded, a tributary will be clearer for even totally clear depending on where the rain has fallen. So downstream of tributaries along the line of murky and clear water can be where the trout are likely to be.

A good flood causes trout to seek refuge from aggressive rapids. The gentle run-ins and riffles will suddenly be raging rapids at flood time. Deeper pools will have gentler water so in the slacker "eye" of the pool or at the tail of the pool before the next rapid, will be where trout seek comfort. Places that once were slack water will now have some flow.

However, finding the softer water, nearer the banks will be areas to focus on. A flood in the river can alter things and nymphs and other morsels can be dislodged from stones and swept downstream and pushed towards the edges. Trout will be looking for food.

MDC Gauges

Check the local Council's website for over flows and get to know the flows relative to the height of the river. You may have to wait a day for two or three after a flood.

The flood itself may be too dirty to be fishable but as the flood abates and the water starts to clear, it's a top time to try.

You may not even have to wade as fish are holding in close and short casts can be made from dry stones!

Spinners/Flies

Focus on dark spinners and there's none better than a Black Toby. Similarly large dark streamers are best such as a Hairy Dog or Black Woolly Bugger size 4 or 2. Cast straight out and let the streamer swing around.

Tippet

You don't need 5 metre leaders. Shorten up to about three metres and use a stronger tippet. The murky water naturally limits trout's vision so you can get away with shorter leaders and heavier tippets.



Familiar Spots

In murky water be aware the flood itself may have created new drop-offs so if you have to wade do so carefully. It also pays to fish a pool you know from when the river was clear.

Sometimes pools can have sudden drop-offs which you can see in clear water but not in discoloured water.

Split Shot

Don't be afraid to use bigger flies. Water flows, just after a flood, will be much faster and higher so if it's deeper water, it may take some extra weight to get down to where the fish are. So add a split shot or perhaps two, a few centimetres above your fly.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Fishing rule #1: The least experienced fisherman always catches the biggest fish.

Fishing rule #2: The worse your line is tangled, the better is the fishing around you.

Fishing rule #3: Fishing will do a lot for a man but it won't make him truthful.

Un Noin

NATIONAL TREASURE DAME LYNDA TOPP NAMED PATRON OF FISH & GAME NEW ZEALAND

By Maggie Tait – Fish And Game New Zealand



Caption: Dame Lynda in hunting gear. Credit: NZ Hunter Adventures

Fish & Game New Zealand today announced acclaimed New Zealand entertainer Dame Lynda Topp as the organisation's inaugural patron.

Fish & Game chief executive officer Corina Jordan said she was incredibly grateful Dame Lynda has agreed to take on the role and share her passion for angling and hunting with New Zealanders from all walks of life.

“Dame Lynda’s love of angling and hunting, coupled with her contributions to the sector, make her an ideal candidate to represent Fish & Game.

“Dame Lynda shares with Fish & Game a passion for our traditions and the goal of getting people out fishing and hunting. Like many Kiwis she loves the bush, fishing, hunting, being part of it — not just taking from it.

“Angling and hunting are not just for men – Dame Lynda will help us change traditional expectations and show how women and all groups of society can get a lot out of these healthy and rewarding activities.”

Dame Lynda, who supported Fish & Game’s ReWild campaign at its launch, said she was honoured by the appointment and strongly believed in the role hunters and anglers played in conservation.

“Going hunting or fishing is fun, and a great way to connect with friends and family but it’s also a really awesome way of managing introduced species because every introduced species must be managed in a way that they are sustainable but don’t take over from native species.

“So hunting is not only a great time to get together with friends and get amazing mental health benefits but also very important environmentally for this country.”

Dame Lynda's role as patron will involve advocating for sustainable freshwater management, engaging the public, supporting initiatives, collaborating with stakeholders, and serving as an ambassador.

Dame Lynda is also trustee for Hunters for Conservation.

WHY WE FISH

“I’ve gone fishing thousands of times in my life, and I have never once felt unlucky or poorly paid for those hours on the water.”

William Tapply.



Andrew is making a habit of catching big Ngongotaha Brownies. This one was caught on last month's Club Trip. Photo courtesy of Andrew Todd.



The Rise Fly Fishing Film Festival is back again. It is in Auckland on the 12th and 14th August. For the full schedule and to buy tickets go to:
<https://flyfilmtour.com/schedule/2025-new-zealand-schedule/>

FISHING FUNNIES



(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated)

MEMBERS FEEDBACK

We, your committee, are always trying to give you what you want.

But are we??

In order for us to do our job properly we need to have your feedback, positive or negative. For example, have you been on a club fishing trip? Did you enjoy yourself? What would you change, if anything? Club nights – what would you like to see more of? Less of? In short, talk to us.

The contact details of all your committee members are listed at the end of every newsletter. So if you have something on your mind let us know.

Thank you - Your committee

NSFF CLUB MERCHANDISE

Cap – \$15.00 Inclusive of GST

Green or Beige, one size fits all, with embroidered badge.

Embroidered Cloth Badge - \$7.50 Inclusive of GST

Brushed Brass Metal Pin Badge - \$12.50 Inclusive of GST

If anyone is interested in purchasing these products please place an order at Club Nights.

Meetings held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm:
Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead, North Shore City

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