

# THE EVENING RISE

December 2015

Issue: 181

Official Publication of the Mornington Peninsula Fly Fishers Inc.



## MPFF Mission Statement

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly fishing in all its aspects.

To promote, foster and encourage the art of fly tying.

To promote, foster and encourage the sport of fly casting.

To increase the pleasure derived by members from their sport by social intercourse, interchange of ideas and by collective or mutually assistive action generally.

To promote and assist in the stocking with trout and other sporting fish, of local and other waters.

To foster and promote the conservation of the environment on which the sport of fly fishing is practised and to assist scientific and practical research in all matters pertaining to the sport.

To do all such other things that are incidental to or conducive to the attainment of these purposes and for the exercise of the power of the club.



## PRESIDENTS LINE

Greetings Fellow Fly Flickers

Well, our small band of fly fishers have been, seen and returned educated in the art of fly fishing NZ style.

It was a pleasure to be guided and taught by our Tongariro fly fishing guru Frank Schlosser, and our Rangitikei Rafting & Fly guiding guru Steve, both ably assisted by our own local guru Peter Wilson. They freely passed on their local knowledge of their water, fly's and rigs as the taught us how to cast in all conditions with leaders up to 6m long.

New Zealand is a beautiful place to visit and fish. The scenery is fantastic, the water is tough and the fish can be large. Even with our own casting days before leaving home our casting skill was not up to the task at first, but got better the longer we spent on the water.

Our average catch over the whole group was 3+ fish landed each day and at least as many that were hooked up but not able to be landed.

I'll hope to catch up with most of you at the Xmas BBQ where I'm sure the others will fill in the blank spaces with their own stories. If I don't get to catch up with you—may you and yours have a safe and Happy Xmas and my you catch a fish or two.

Hope to catch up with you on the water somewhere, some time soon.

Regards, Russ Johnson.

## CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

<b>President:</b>	Russell Johnson	russj.john@gmail.com
<b>Vice President:</b>	Steve Darnell	stevewd2000@yahoo.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Ian Herron	iherron@bigpond.net.au
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Robert Fisher	rfisher1251@bigpond.com
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.mpff.org.au">www.mpff.org.au</a>	

P.O. Box 848, Frankston, VIC. 3199

## CLUB REMINDERS

### FLY TYING

*Sunday December 6th @ Bob Fishers  
14 Penton Crt., Somerville*

### COMMITTEE MEETING

*Thursday 11th February 2016*

### CLUB MEETING

*Thursday 10th December @ Wranglers*

### AT THE MEETING

*Xmas Break-up BBQ*

*Members Reports & Photos*

### FOR YOUR DIARIES

*Tassie Trip 12—19th February 2016*

*Club Trip Wendouree / Creswick  
26-28th February 2016*

### SHOT OF THE MONTH

*Ian's "ripper" Rangitikei Brown*

## LAST MEETING

Talk Wild Trout 2015

Jon Klarenbeek reported to members following his attendance at the Mansfield conference.

The conference assembled fisheries, scientists and recreational anglers to share the findings of research conducted on riverine trout populations over the last 12 months.

The conference shared the results from the first year of field work so that anglers, and angling dependent businesses, arrived at a better understanding of our trout fisheries and their key drivers.

Amongst the presentations were topics ranging from spawning success in 12 wild trout rivers, trout movement in the Delatite River from the acoustic tracking project, and measuring the contribution stocked trout have made to anglers' catches in a number of rivers across the state.

Elements of the Conference Proceedings will be edited and added progressively to our future newsletters.

Additionally, the summary document is available for members perusal on the website or a copy can be emailed to you.

## NZ 2015 REPORT

***FABULOUS 7 STAR ACCOMMODATION, EXCELLENT FOOD, GREAT COMPANY, FANTASTIC SCENERY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY— SPECTACULAR FISHING!!***

*The entire New Zealand trip undertaken by Russ J, Ian, Terry, Harry, Peter C, Russell K and team leader / organiser Peter Wilson had an unforgettable time.*

*Special thanks go to our patient Tongariro guide—**Frank Schlosser** for getting us onto fish every day and introducing us to a selection of waters around the Taupo district.*

*We spent a great day rafting the Rangitikei River with **Steve Mattock** from **Tarata Fishaway Lodge** who introduced us to his very special fishing experience only accessible by raft—his personal attention to us in each group of 3 was spiced with the sort of humour which did untold damage to Oz/Kiwi relationships. Thanks Steve!*

***River Birches Lodge** was a fabulous base for our trip—located right on the edge of the Tongariro river and set in delightful landscaped gardens. Our hostess **Anthea** from ensured we were well provisioned for each day and provided a sumptuous evening meal which we consumed amidst great camaraderie each night. Very special thanks **Anthea** and your staff.*

*Finally, a huge thank you to **Peter Wilson** for his organisation and negotiating a fantastic cost for the trip.*

# WILD TROUT CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS REPORT

## 13 Key findings:

- There was evidence of brown trout recruitment from 2014 spawning in 11 of the 12 priority rivers, with no brown trout recruitment recorded in the Jamieson River.
- There was evidence of rainbow trout recruitment from the 2014 spawning in 9 of the 12 priority rivers, including the Jamieson River.
- The Aire, Goulburn, Howqua, Kiewa, King, Ovens and Toorongo rivers all had at least one site with > 50 trout captured per 100 metres surveyed.
- The Goulburn, Howqua, Kiewa and Toorongo rivers all had at least one site with > 100 trout captured per 100 metres surveyed.
- The Ovens River showed signs of trout recovery following the 2013 fires and sediment impact.
- The survey site at Harrietteville had high abundances of mature brown trout. No brown trout were collected from the Ovens River upstream of Harrietteville, although rainbow trout were collected indicating the population is showing signs of recovery.
- The Dargo River had very low abundances of brown trout, except for the highest altitude site.
- The number of trout captured per 100 metres in Nariel Creek (8 trout / 100 metres) was half that of the next lowest stream (Yarra River with 16 trout / 100 metres).
- Generally, trout were in much higher abundances at the higher altitude sites. However, two of the four rivers surveyed in Coastal Victoria had higher abundances at lower altitudes (Aire and Toorongo rivers).

## Next steps:

- Monitor trout populations for the following two years, including assessing levels of recruitment from the 2015 spawning event.
- The list of priority waters to be surveyed in 2016 are:

Barkly River, Dargo River, Goulburn River, Howqua River, Jamieson River, Kiewa River, King River, Mitta Mitta River, Morass Creek, Nariel Creek, Ovens River, One south-west Victorian river (to be determined)

## Health cards for 12 of our best wild trout streams

**Aim:** Produce health cards for each of our monitored streams to give fishers and managers a better understanding of the past and current health of our wild trout streams.

**Overview:** The information in these health cards is aimed to give the reader a better understanding of the health of particular trout streams now and into the future. It is hoped the health cards will also provide some information useful for your future trout fishing adventures. The information provided on the health cards is based on recent and past survey information collected using electrofishing. Electrofishing is an effective sampling tool for providing a snapshot of the presence and abundance of fish present in a stream. However, electrofishing is not perfect and does not catch all fish present. The numbers of fish presented in the Health Cards should therefore be considered an underestimate. ***There are likely to be many more fish in the system available to fishers, than just those recorded in the surveys!*** It is also important to remember that trout populations vary widely and trout are a resilient species. Some streams support large populations and others support small populations. Some streams have lots of small fish and others have few big fish. Streams that fished poorly last year may fish well the next season, or vice versa. Fluctuation is normal in fish populations and trout are particularly good at responding to their environment. These cards provide a snapshot insight into the current health of a variety of trout populations in Victoria.

# WILD TROUT CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS REPORT

## How to read the Health cards:

The green **Key Health Indicators** box give you an easy to read overall evaluation of key health attributes of the trout population and an overall rating.

The pink **Monitoring Results** section provides a summary the fish surveys and provides information to the reader regarding the number of brown and rainbow trout caught, percentage of fish that were over 20cm in length (defined as catchable), largest brown trout, average size and density of catchable brown trout and what other fish species are in the stream. The map provides locations of each survey site and density of catchable brown trout. The reverse of the card provides important information about the shape of the population (size structure) and the relative abundance compared with previous surveys. Finally, a simple overview summary of the health card report is provided.

**Location:** Howqua River

**Three sites surveyed 19-20 Jan 2015:**

- Site A: 250m stretch near Running Creek  
Camp reserve
- Site B: 650m stretch at Fry's Hut
- Site C: 1km stretch at 7 Mile Flat
- Site D: 200m stretch at Bindaree

### Key health indicators

Recent recruitment



Multiple size classes



Mature fish



Overall Rating: **Very good**

### Monitoring results

**Total number of trout caught:**

78 brown trout (BT) and 132 rainbow trout (RT) in 2.1km of river

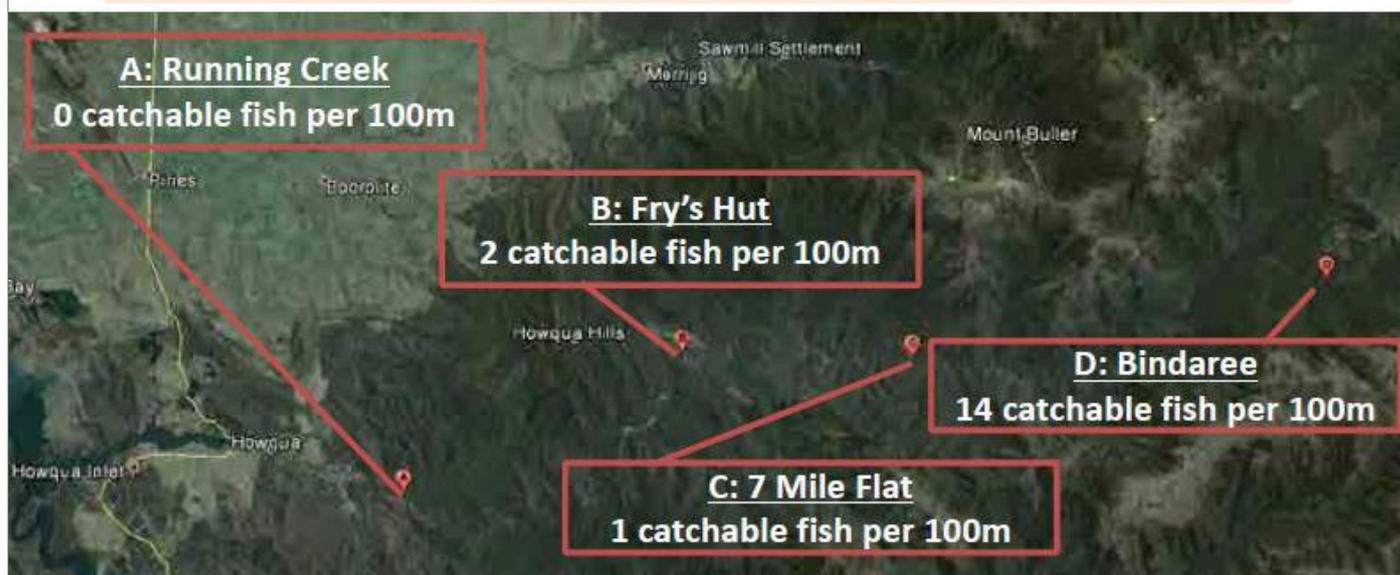
**% Catchable (20cm+) fish:** 63% (BT), 4% (RT)

**Largest brown trout:** 52cm/20in and 1.4kg/3lb

**Average size of catchable (20cm+) brown trout:** 27cm/11in

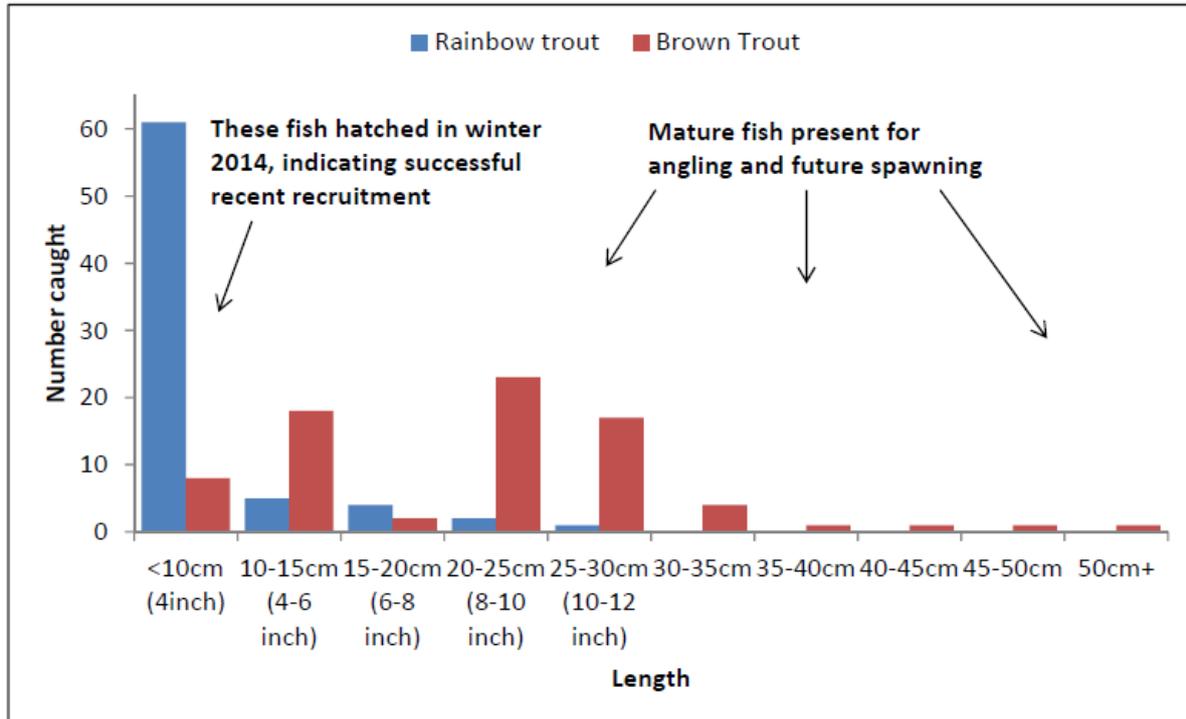
**Overall catchable (20cm+) brown trout density:** 2 fish per 100m

**Other species present:** Yabby, carp, spiny crayfish, two-spined blackfish, galaxid minnow, redbin, roach

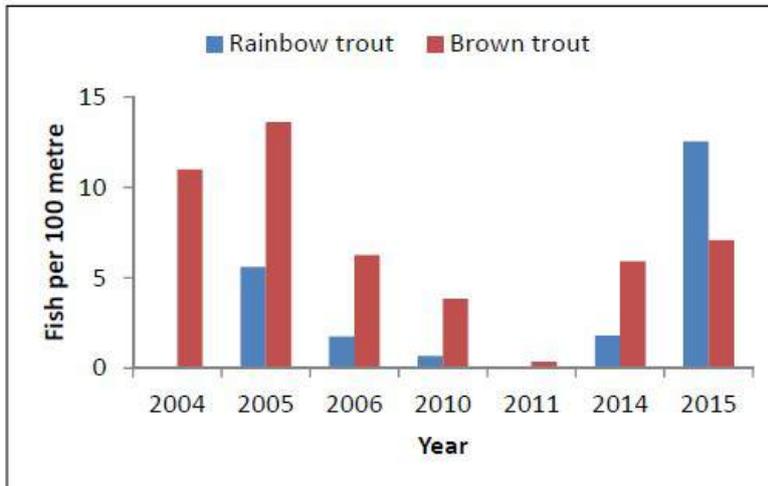


# WILD TROUT CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS REPORT

Multiple size classes of brown and rainbow trout are currently present



Relative abundance of brown and rainbow trout is average to high compared to surveys in previous years



The 2015 survey suggests the Howqua River continues to support good numbers of brown trout and rainbow trout, including mature brown trout over 50cm

## CLUB FISHING SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

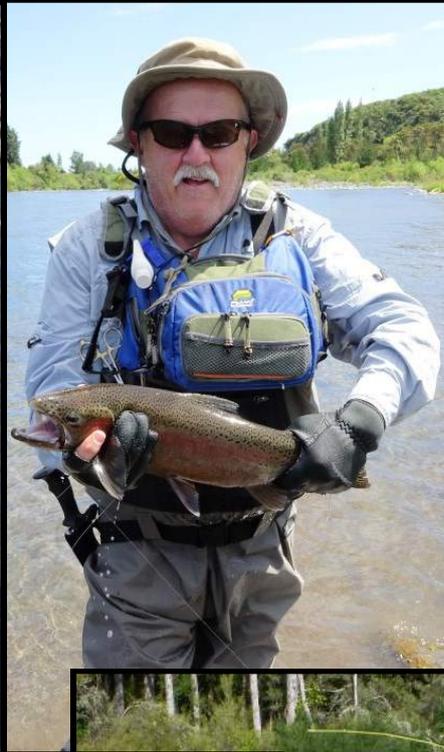


The long sleeved fishing shirts have now been embroidered with the club logo and will be available from Steve Darnell at the next meeting.

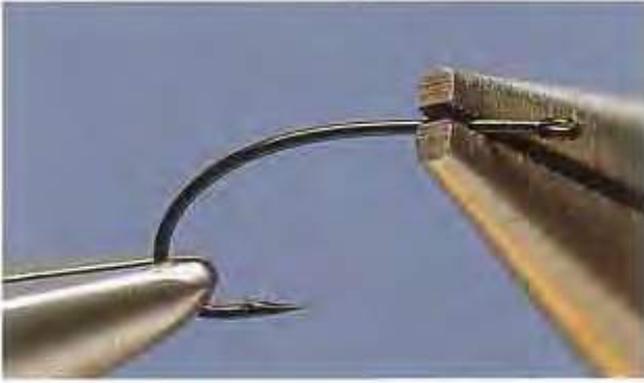
As well as those that were pre-ordered we have a number of "extras" in a range of sizes available for purchase by members.

We also have a range of club polo shirts, embroidered badges and stickers, & metal badges available for sale. Just ask Steve at any meeting!

*TEAM NZ 2015*



## FROM THE FLY TIERS DESK — KLINKHAMMER SPECIAL



**1** Fix the hook in the vise and use fine-nose pliers to bend down the front section of the shank by a few degrees.



**2** Run on the thread just short of the eye, and carry it down the shank and around the hook bend. Dub a pinch of tan fur onto the thread. Wind the dubbed thread around the shank to form a slim body, stopping at the new bend made in step 1.



**3** Take the thread back toward the eye and catch in four gray cul-de-canard plumes that have been placed together so that their tips are level. Wind the thread around the base of the feathers to bring them upright.



**4** Catch in two strands of peacock herl in front of the body and gently twist them together to form a rope. Wind the rope up to the wing base. Do not remove the ends at this point.



**5** Prepare a blue-gray cock hackle, leaving a short length of bare stem, and catch it in at the base of the wing. Using hackle pliers, make three or four turns of the hackle just above the turns of peacock herl.



**6** Secure the hackle point with thread and remove the excess. Stroke the fibers back and wind the remaining peacock rope to the eye. Secure the loose end and remove the excess before stroking the hackle into position. Cast off.

**FOR SALE**



**Akubra Snowy River  
size 56 cm in VGC**

**Price \$50**

**Andrew Pastuszka:**

**0439 112 399**

email: [in2flyfishing@optusnet.com.au](mailto:in2flyfishing@optusnet.com.au)

**FOR SALE**

**Mystic Fly rod: length 9', #6wt line.**

**Cost \$200 selling for \$100 ono — only used twice!**

**Contact Darren Anson 0407 841 086**



**SPECIAL EFFORT CLUB RAFFLE**

**1st Prize:**

*9' 4wt rod with 1' extension  
including reel and 4WF line.*

**2nd Prize:**

*Landing Net*

**3rd Prize:**

*Fly Tying Kit*



**TICKETS \$5.00**

**RAFFLE DRAWN**

**XMAS BREAK-UP**

Prizes may vary from pictures!!!

## SHOT OF THE MONTH



*A “ripper” Rangitikei brown caught by the only “leftie” in the group!*

*The challenge was casting around the rock to land the fly in front of the fish.*

Forgive my vanity for including this photo—my first chance to brag since editing this newsletter!!!

## OUR MAJOR SPONSOR

*Hurley's*  
**FLY FISHING**



- Our goal is to bring you top quality fly fishing tackle at the very best prices.
- Our prices are 30-50% less than retail for similar quality products, and within reach of the person who it matters most to....you!
- The difference is ours don't come with the same high price tag.



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