

THE EVENING RISE

February 2017

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Official Publication of the Mornington Peninsula Fly Fishers Inc.

Established: 1998



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 and a Happy New Year to you all.

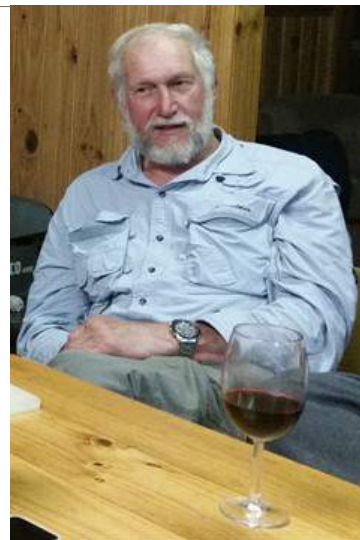
Well Santa has been and gone I hope he was kind to you and yours, and as we start the Year of the Rooster I hope we can ruffle a few fishing feathers.

Our club year started in Tassie with 13 members taking on the lakes of the Central Highlands and also dropping down the hill to fish the rivers with mixed results. Arthurs lake is not performing at all and Little Pine is dirty and not wanting to play ball! "Huey" stepped in and sent us a little bit of wind to keep us on our toes adding to the frustrations of fish moving during the day but not at night and no indications at what they were feeding on. Once again our members proved their gourmet skills, probably exceeding their angling skills. All in all, a good week was had by all (and its not all about the fishing).

Our next challenge as a club will be an Introduction to Fly fishing Expo at Devilbend on March 5 to see if we can introduce new people to the mysteries of fly fishing, fly tying, and casting with the view of gaining new members and some juniors to boost our club numbers. We will talk about it more at the next meeting.

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

Regards, Russ Johnson.



CLUB CONTACT DETAILS

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CLUB REMINDERS

FLY TYING

At Devilbend Expo

COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday 9th March 6.30 pm

CLUB MEETING

Thursday 23rd February @ Wranglers

AT THE MEETING

Members Reports & Photos

Xmas / Tasmania /

FOR YOUR DIARIES

Devilbend Expo - Sunday March 5th

Club Trip Big River / Taponga

Friday—Sunday March 24th/26th

SHOT OF THE MONTH

Andrew's trophy fish from Wastell

LAST MEETING

We welcomed all members, partners and guests to our annual Xmas BBQ break-up.

The meat was well cooked, the salads filling and the desserts disappeared.

Members enjoyed socializing over a convivial Xmas drink and there was much discussion about the NZ trip and other fishing highlights.

The Special Effort Raffle was drawn and the major prize of a rod and reel was won by Andrew.

THIS MEETING

We have a number of items to discuss and plan for:

- We are planning to hold a Fly fishing Expo at Devilbend on Sunday March 5th where we will showcase Casting, Fly tying and fishing at Devilbend.
- We need individual members to respond to Parks request for submissions to allow water craft on Devilbend—see article in this news.
- A brief outline of the Club Calendar for the year and highlighting upcoming weekend Club Trips to Big River (March) and Caringal (April).

Your input and support is essential!!!

CLUB MERCHANDISE ON SALE AT MEETINGS

METAL BADGES - suitable for lapel / hat **\$10**

CLOTH BADGES - sew it on your vest / jacket **\$5**

FISHING SHIRTS-- embroidered with club logo **\$50**

POLO SHIRTS - embroidered with club logo **\$25**

STICK-ON DECALS - for your car / boat **\$3 / \$5**



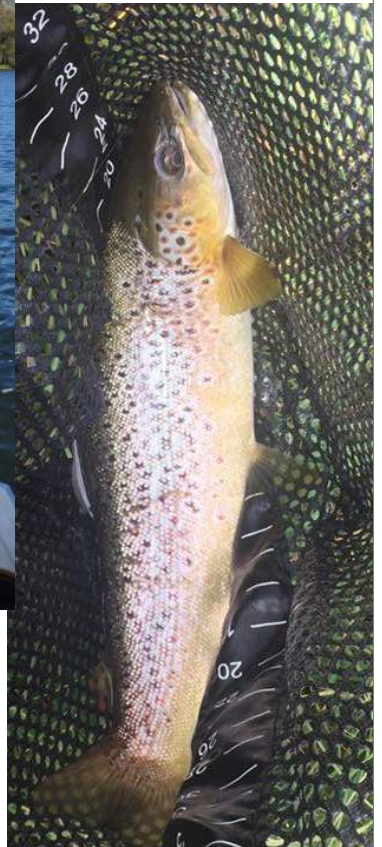
TASMANIA FISHING REPORT

Thirteen members travelled to Tasmania for this year's annual trip. Once again we were accommodated in Tiger Hut at Liawenee.

After an uneventful trip over on the ferry and a brief stop at Deloraine to top-up our provisions we quickly unpacked and headed in all directions to our favourite lake.

Some went up to the top to Lake Kay and Botsworth, whilst others travelled via Miena to the popular Penstock Lagoon.

As usual the fishing was hard, but the camaraderie was excellent—all present enthusiastically commenting on the great time we had together.



CLUB TRIP — BIG RIVER / TAPONGA



This months Club Trip we return to a once favoured venue for weekend trips— Eildon Lions Club Camp at Big River.

The buildings have undergone an extensive upgrade—especially the kitchen and bunkrooms.

Traditionally , this was the Club's Novice Weekend.

There is excellent fishing available in walking distance from the camp and a short 20 min drive opens even further possibilities.

Wading or fishing from the bank is possible and there are usually fish to be had.



Accommodation is bunkhouse style with a large equipped kitchen and there is also a large patio and BBQ area.

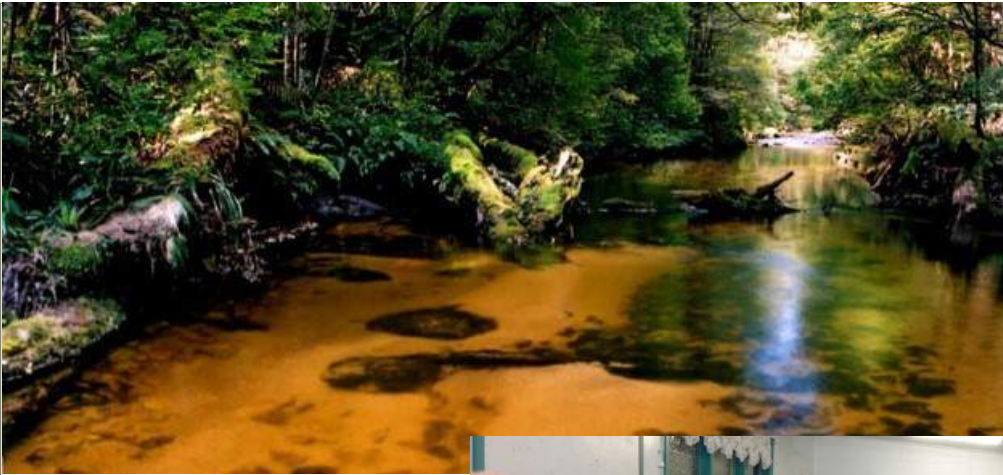
The large dining area and fireplace is a great venue for a get together drink and socialising at the end of each day.

\$25 / head / night.

To get there, follow the Maroondah Highway to Taggerty, turn-off to the right onto Taggerty-Thornton Rd and continue through to Thornton. Turn right onto the Goulburn Valley Highway, then right again onto EildonJamieson Rd—from here the camp is approx. 30 mins drive at the first Big River bridge.



ADVANCE NOTICE— APRIL CLUB TRIP



- Following last year's very successful trip the April Club Trip (weekend April 28th/30th) is once again set down for Tyers River and Erica.

- Accommodation will be at Caringal Scout Camp LOT 4E Telbit Road, Caringal VIC 3825.

- We have booked bunkhouse accommodation and the large mess hall again this year.
- Cost \$25 / head / night.
- Walk to fishing sites—no need to use your car unless you wish to fish other nearby rivers.



USE BY DATE??

We are all familiar with these dates on food that we purchase.

But what about your tippet? Does it have a use by date?

This is a question that arose in Tasmania this year during a knot tying demonstration. While testing the strength of a knot it failed. The knot was retied, tested and it broke again. The tippet was tested and it snapped without a huge amount of effort being applied. It was tested again with the same result. The spool of tippet found its way into the bin.

It turns out that the owner of the binned tippet had lost five good fish in Penstock all of which had broken off the fly or snapped the tippet. He was not a happy camper. He like most of us did not know that nylon tippet will degrade over time.

My friend Mr Google says that nylon tippet can be degraded by UV exposure, heat and chemicals (sunscreen). Heat will degrade the nylon, even if it is not exposed to UV rays. Repeated heating in the boot of the car in summer is something many fishermen do not consider. Fluorocarbon tippet will last longer than nylon.

It was suggested that you should check spools of tippet before you buy them. You do not know how they have been stored or displayed in the store.

There is a lesson here for us all. Check your tippet.



2016 NZ TRIP REPORT

Our accommodation for this trip was the Tongariro River Motel (TRM) at Turangi. The TRM is well placed with many of the main pools of the Tongariro River being within easy walking distance, as are the local shops. In an ideal world we could leave the car at the motel and walk to where we were going to fish or shop. Our plan was fish the various pools up and down stream from the motel. As with any holiday you take whatever the weather gods give you. Our trip was no different.

We joined another MPFF member, Doug D who was already staying at the TRM having spent the previous week fishing Lake Otamangakau, Lake O for ease of conversation. Doug prefers to use his boat to fish Lake O rather than fish the Tongariro. Doug's willingness to share his knowledge and experience of how and where to fish was greatly appreciated.



To help us get our bearings and get some sort of understanding about what was happening on the river we had booked a guide, Richard Mowforth, for the first two fishing days of our trip. Unfortunately no one told the power company, who decided to release water from one of its dams into the Tongariro raising the level and turning the river chocolate brown. The river was unfishable. As we couldn't fish, Richard took us on a "look see" tour of the pools and gave us advice on how to fish each one. After lunch Richard took to Lake Taupo to the mouth of the Hinemaiaia River. The idea was to cast out and allow our flies to drift out over the drop off. While we did not hook

up we had some bumps to our flies. Given the prevailing on shore wind it was a bit like surf fishing.

Sunday saw the river cleaner and lower so we divided into two groups, the first group fished with the Richard before lunch, the other after lunch. It was a successful day with everyone catching fish. After yesterday this was a very pleasing result.

Monday saw Michael (Russell K's brother) head back to Wellington because of the earthquake. Terry, David and George left to go rafting while the two Russell's explored Island Pool. One unusual feature of the Tongariro is its floating rocks ! It was common to be watching your indicator floating alongside pieces of pumice. The rafters met their guides Steve and Jack at the agreed location and headed up into the headwaters of the Rangitikei River. This was tough going and the two guides worked hard to get everyone onto fish. Terry spent an hour casting to a big fish which he eventually caught after many fly changes.

Due to the weather conditions we needed to ring Steve at 6:30 am on Tuesday to confirm that the days rafting would go ahead. Not having a mobile phone, that worked in NZ, was a slight problem. We had previously used Doug's phone but forgot to borrow it for this call. So instead we went on a search for a public phone. After driving around Turangi we came to the conclusion that public phones do not exist.

On enquiring at a service station and confirming what we suspected, that there weren't any, the attendant kindly lent Russell Johnson her own phone. A quick call later and the rafting trip was confirmed. The two Russell's left while the others planned to fish the Tongariro.

2016 NZ TRIP REPORT

Unfortunately it rained all day at Turangi and the fishing that was done resulted in wet fisherman. As we had only one car and that was with the rafters, the options for those in Turangi were very limited. While the rain was not as heavy or constant for the rafters, the rain had a positive on the fishing. The fish sensing the rising river go into overdrive, eating everything on offer. The two Russell's hit a purple patch in one pool almost catching one fish per cast. One fish took Russell J to the backing ! The fishing only stopped when the guide suggested we have afternoon tea ! Why would you stop great fishing for a cuppa?



The Tongariro River was flowing hard and dirty on Wednesday after the previous day's rain. We couldn't fish the river. (There goes plan A.) We consulted Richard for some possible alternatives (plan B). He suggested the Waitahanui Stream either where it joins Lake Taupo or further upstream. Unfortunately it too was high and dirty. We headed to Lake O (plan C). We had fished the lake last year and had a few places in mind. The lake level was higher than last year and the weed beds we planned to fish were too far offshore. We tried the canal at Lake O (plan D). The great thing about Turangi is that there are so many options for fishing, all relatively close by.

Doug and George spent the day in the boat fishing Lake O. George enjoyed the experience despite not landing the 10 pound trout for which the lake is renowned.

2016 NZ TRIP REPORT

Thursday's weather forecast wasn't great and with the Tongariro still dirty and rising we headed back to the canal at Lake O. The conditions were not great with bands of showers passing through and a steady wind. This did not worry David who landed three excellent fish.



We ended a trying day with a fantastic roast dinner cooked for us by Doug.

Friday was to be our last fishing day and at last the Tongariro was clean and pretty clear. We headed down below the bridge to Log Pool and spread out along the river. David and Russell J found areas where fish moving upstream paused for a rest. No long casts were required, these fish were in close. You could see the fish you were casting to, watch

them swim towards and take your fly. Terry and the two Russell's spent a couple of hours casting and catching fish at this one spot in the pool. Meanwhile David was having fun with his own patch of resting fish. This was the type of fishing we had hoped for all week.

We put our rods away on Saturday to give our gear time to dry out. We spent the day as tourists rather than fisherman, starting with the Tongariro Hatchery. After viewing the excellent museum which tells the story of fly fishing in the area we walked through the hatchery. At one point we walked down to a viewing window set into the bank of the stream to see the trout holding station in the stream. An impressive sight. Further along the path you come to the Tongariro River, which was running clear. You could see fish in the water and it was hard not to imagine what would happen with the right fly. Why is it that when you can't fish, the river is perfect?

We met Peter Wilson in town and over a coffee he told us his week and the more than 50 fish his group had caught. It was one of the best years he has had with his group. It just goes to show how many fish are in the river.

Despite the adverse weather and river conditions we all had a great week. Special thanks to Richard, Steve and Pip and Ross Baker our hosts at TRM who made us feel most welcome. Will MPFF return in 2017? That's a rhetorical question, of course we will.

DEVILBEND ON-WATER ACCESS— RESPONSE NEEDED

Update for local residents

Devilbend on-water access for non-powered watercraft

Devilbend Natural Features Reserve

February 2017

Parks Victoria is planning to allow non-powered watercraft such as kayaks and canoes to use a section of Devilbend Reservoir for recreation. In accordance with the Devilbend Natural Features Reserve Management Plan, shore-based fishing is authorised in designated areas while on-water recreation by non-powered watercraft can be considered within the designated Conservation and Recreation Zone only. Parks Victoria intends to amend the zoning in the management plan to allow non-powered watercraft access to a larger section of the reservoir than permitted by the current zoning (see map).

Parks Victoria is inviting park users, residents, stakeholders and the broader community to have their say about how this plan for limited on-water access will be implemented, including the area and types of watercraft permitted, as well as the location and type of launching facilities provided.

Parks Victoria recognises boating, such as canoeing and kayaking as popular activities for visitors to enjoy parks and their natural settings. In keeping with the *Healthy Parks Healthy People* philosophy, providing opportunities such as these activities contributes to the physical, mental and social health benefits of people. On-water access will also provide access to deeper water for fishing, to improve the chances of catching

trout species which have a preference for cooler, deeper water towards the centre of the reservoir, particularly in summer.

Devilbend Natural Features Reserve is of high conservation significance and the 243 hectare Devilbend Reservoir is recognised as an Important Bird Area (IBA). This means it is an area recognised by BirdLife International as being globally important for the conservation of bird populations, supporting over 1% of the global population of the Blue-billed Duck which is listed as threatened under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.

A Discussion Paper and other background documents are available at parks.vic.gov.au to stimulate thinking about on-water access. You may choose to respond directly to the issues presented in the Discussion Paper or make a general comment on the topic.

You can

- Contact Parks Victoria on 13 1963 for further information or to comment verbally
- Email your thoughts and ideas to melbournecommunity@parks.vic.gov.au - please include "Devilbend" in the subject line
- Submit a response by post to Bill Mallinson, Parks Victoria, 2 Hinton St, Rosebud, 3939
- Contact Bill Mallinson, Ranger in Charge Park Services, South East Melbourne on 13 1963 if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Your feedback is important and you are encouraged to provide your comments by Friday 24 March 2017







PLEASE MAKE AN INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE

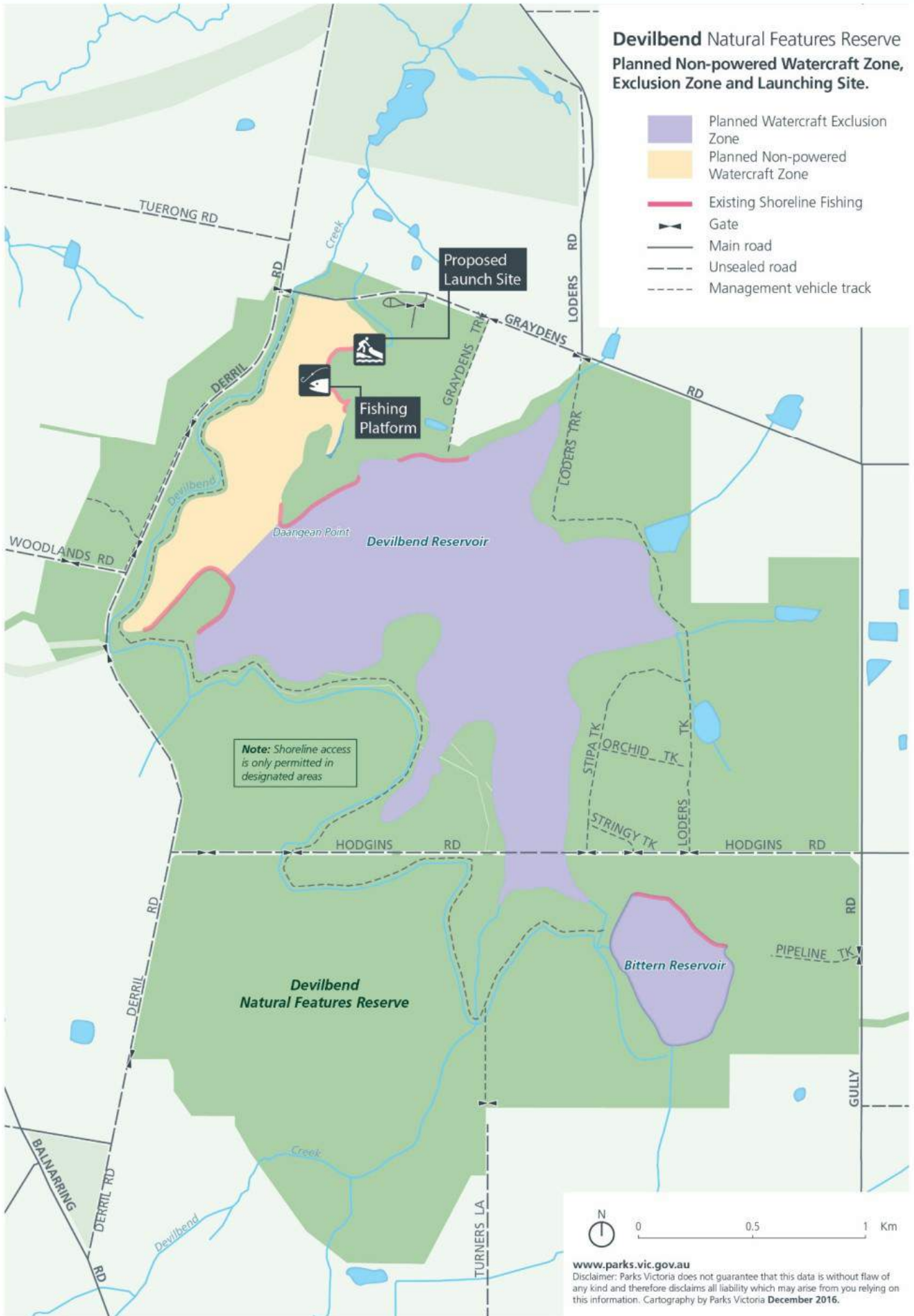
The bigger our response—the more likely we get a favourable outcome!!!!



DEVILBEND ON-WATER ACCESS—PLANNED ZONE

Devilbend Natural Features Reserve Planned Non-powered Watercraft Zone, Exclusion Zone and Launching Site.

-  Planned Watercraft Exclusion Zone
-  Planned Non-powered Watercraft Zone
-  Existing Shoreline Fishing
-  Gate
-  Main road
-  Unsealed road
-  Management vehicle track



www.parks.vic.gov.au
 Disclaimer: Parks Victoria does not guarantee that this data is without flaw of any kind and therefore disclaims all liability which may arise from you relying on this information. Cartography by Parks Victoria December 2016.

JOHN SANG WRITES FROM NZ HOLIDAY

Hello Ian,

We spent a few days around Turangi last week, and taking Doug Davison's good advice, made contact with Ross & Pip at the Tongariro River Motel.

They were most hospitable and after a few drinks, insisted that we take a room for a few days instead of roughing it in our camper van.

I engaged the services of Harry Moores who took me far upstream on the Whakapapa from the little village of Kakahi., about 45min from Turangi.

He took me to a pool there where he insisted that 30-40 fish hold.. I fished along the foam trail for about 3 hrs. Got innumerable strikes, eight hookups and landed four nice fish; three rainbows and a brown. And all except one on a size 14 plain black nymph. The other one took the size 10 black bomb designed to get the small nymph down.

We stayed overnight Kakahi and the following morning went for a stroll along the Whanganui just downstream from the confluence with the Whakapapa. Both awesome rivers and in pretty good shape with good flows and clear water.

A couple of days later, my wife Michele and I walked the Tongariro from Major Jones bridge up the true left bank past the Trout centre to the Red Hut bridge and then down the other side home. About a 10km walk and we were both pretty well done-in by the finish, but we saw at least 100 good fish in the pools up and back. Admirals Pool was holding 13; Cattle Rustlers Pool about 12; Upper Birch Pool just outside the Trout Centre had about 10 and most of them in water just off the bank no more than 12-18 inches deep, amazing. We also saw good fish in the Duchess pool.

I returned the following day, walking the true right bank from Major Jones bridge 15 min to the beautiful Kamahi Pool and pulled out a nice 52cm rainbow.

To my mind, the truly amazing thing here is the size limit you can't take anything less than 45cm, and really, just about all of the fish we saw in the river were well over that size.

Doug had told me about the monster fish in Lake O not far away, and I had a chat with the guys in the next room at the motel, who come done for a month just to fish Lake O. They have a little 10 foot dinghy with 2 plastic chairs bolted onto the 2 thwarts. (Built for comfort for a full day on the lake) They raved as Doug did, saying that the fish are so big and strong, they may land one fish in ten. Barry likened it to hooking onto a Polaris missile. The fish there constantly run all the backing out.

I got the same message from a guy at Lake O the following morning who told me the biggest fish he caught there was only 7lb, but because there is so much food there, and the fish are in such good condition, it was a better fight than a 10lb'er from anywhere else, and definitely the highlight of his fishing to date.

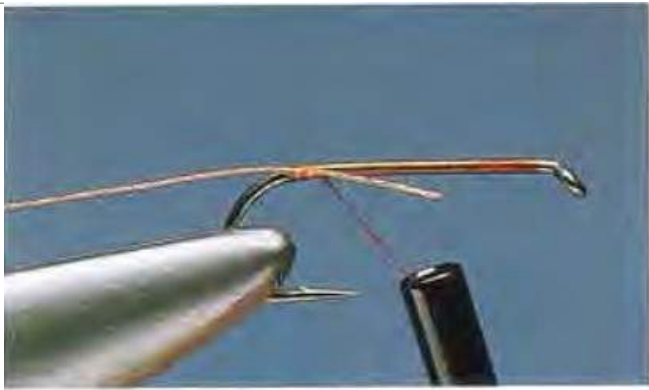
All of which means that we definitely must return to this area before to long.

Cheers,

John
Sanguinetti



FROM THE FLY TIERS DESK — ELK HAIR EMERGER



1 With the hook fixed in the vise, run the tying thread on at the eye and carry it down the shank to a point opposite the barb. Catch in 2 inches (5cm) of fine, oval, gold tinsel.



2 Using closely wound turns of tying thread, secure the waste end of the tinsel to the shank. This procedure ensures an even base to which the body can then be applied.



3 Take a pinch of fiery brown seal fur and apply it evenly to the thread. Dub it on with a simple finger-and-thumb twist and wind the resulting rope along the shank.



4 Stop the body a short distance from the eye, pinching away any excess fur. Take hold of the gold tinsel and wind five or six tight, evenly spaced turns over the body.



5 Secure and remove the loose tinsel end. Take a small bunch of elk hair, remove any broken fibers, and make sure that the tips are level. Catch it in place with tight thread turns so that the tips project just past the hook bend.



6 Secure with further turns of thread. Then, using slightly looser turns at the base, position the wing to sit at 45 degrees to the shank. Cast off the thread with a whip finish and trim the hair at the eye to leave a short stub.

SHOT OF THE MONTH



Andrew's trophy winning brown from the Wastell

This photo and write-up from Ballarat Fly Fisher's journal.

Andrew Pastuszka, Mornington Peninsula Flyfishers, landed a 1984g BT at Newlyn Reservoir to take out the Wacca McKay Trophy. This Trophy is keenly contested between the Mornington Flyfishers and BFFC each year at the Wastell event. Andrew was stoked with the win and to everyone's surprise took this brown with a *biblio hopper* pattern. Well done Andrew and well deserved for your persistence, patience and creativity.

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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