

## August Meeting



Northdale Recreation Center  
15550 Spring Pine Dr, Tampa, FL  
from 06:30 to 08:30 **Tuesday, 2 August**

Join us in our new meeting place in North Tampa.

This month club member Leigh West will talk about flats fishing techniques in Tampa Bay. Leigh grew up in the Florida Keys where he learned to fish the salt water flats. He is one of our most accomplished fisherman, tyers and casters. Please join us as Leigh shares his expertise and knowledge on fly fishing our local waters.

We will also tie flies, practice casting, swap stories and eat pizza. Arrive for casting at 5:30 with Jonas and the meeting will start indoors at 6:30. We are in the big room this month. //Walt



**Directions to Our Meetings (6:30 pm): Take Dale Mabry north past Ehrlich Road and then left on Northdale Blvd. Then left on Spring Pine Drive and straight to the Rec Center on the right.**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Please join us at the Northdale Rec Center as we transition to our new meeting place. This center is a little more centrally located and we hope to hold and increase attendance. We continue to meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on the first Tuesday of each month. Arrive an hour early to practice casting with our senior instructor Jonas. We will cast in the field to the right of the parking lot.

Thanks to Dr. John Millns and Laura Millns (PA-C) for their skin screening and talk on taking care of our skin on the water. This is especially important during our very hot summers.

I am out in Colorado for awhile and will miss the August meeting. I hope everyone is staying cool and avoiding the heat. Beach snook fishing continues as a good option. Check out our fishing reports for tips. Capt. Pat Damico recommends local bass pond fishing this summer. Best to go early or late in the day and use small poppers or spider bugs.

//Walt Durkin 

## **Quotes for the Month:**

"To him, all good things - trout as well as eternal salvation- come by grace, and grace comes by art, and art does not come easy."

~ *Norman Maclean*

"Ours is the grandest sport. It is an intriguing battle of wits between an angler and a trout; and in addition to appreciating the tradition and grace of the game, we play it in the magnificent out-of-doors."

~ *Ernest G. Schwiebert, Jr.*

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Photos from our July meeting: Dr. John Millns and Laura Millns (PA-C). Smitty is tying.





## TBFFC NEWS & NOTES

### Boundary Waters Protection

Tom Logan provided information on Fly Fishers International (FFI) efforts to protect the Superior National Forest.

Tom Logan, Chairman, FFI Board Conservation Committee, Senior Advisor – Conservation

The Superior National Forest (Forest) is a public land of approximately 3 million acres that include the approximately 1 million acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (Wilderness). Rainy River Headwaters is the approximately 225,504 acres of the Headwaters of a large watershed within the Forest that flows into the Wilderness and other natural areas within the Forest. The withdrawal will essentially remove the Headwaters area from issuance of permits to explore and extract Federally owned minerals for a 20-year period. The purpose is to protect water quality within the Headwaters from likelihood of adverse effects of mining. This is a very significant action, because not only will the withdrawal protect water quality in the Headwaters, water quality will be protected within the entire Rainy River Watershed that flows into the Wilderness and other areas of the Forest.

## Colorado Fly Fishing

Club members Ted and Kathy Hagaman and Denise Bruner visited us in Colorado in early July. Bruce and Patty Anderson also joined us for a week's fishing and hiking. We fished around Ft Collins in the North and South Forks of the Poudre River, Rocky Mountain National Park and Red Feather Lakes.

The Poudre has a wild and scenic designation and flows from the Rocky Mountains down thru Ft Collins. It holds rainbow and cutbows, but the browns are most prevalent. The main river was still running a little high, so we fished the North and South forks. The South Fork is a small stream and more isolated. We caught quite a few happy fish. The North Fork is a tailwater with about a mile of classic small stream fishing.

We also traveled a little over an hour to Estes Park and entered Rocky Mountain National Park. Here we fished the headwaters of the Big Thompson. This is also classic small stream fishing with wild fish. We picnicked at Sprague Lake and got one rainbow trout. We finished that day on the Big Thompson in Estes Park where Denise caught several rainbows. See photos on pages 13 and 14. //Walt



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# Fly Fishing Tip for August

## Jonas Magnuson Tip #6

**Trajectory:** Starting fly casters are taught to false cast on grass and the casts should be horizontal in all planes. But casting horizontally when fishing is an unforced error. Imagine fishing on the beach and you cast horizontally straight out over the water, then the line and the leader will unroll several feet above the surface. Now, we are always dealing with wind and if we deliver horizontally the wind has several feet to mess with our presentation.

I noticed at our June club meeting when we were doing accuracy that the back casts weren't high enough. So, pick a spot on the water where you intend to place your fly. Now, drive the fly line straight to that point and try to straighten your fly line and leader just inches above that point. Now, the wind has much less room to screw up your cast. It is very easy to understand this first part but now this happens. Yes, casters make a flat horizontal backcast but manage to cast at a spot on the water. However, the cast now has a big ugly loop that is hard to point at anything in particular. When the 180-degree rule is broken bad casts follow.

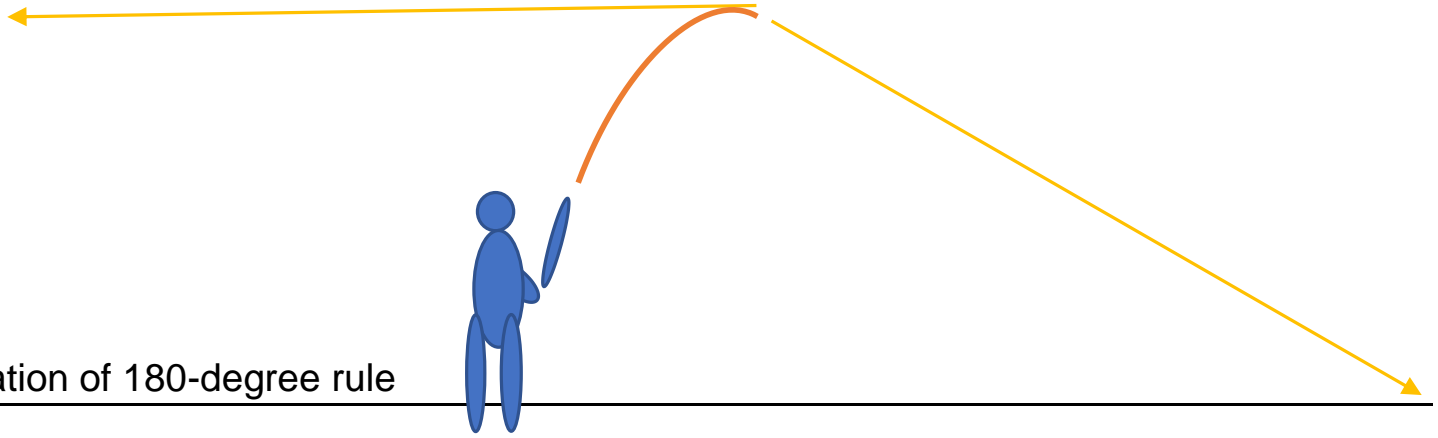
Starting fly casters are taught to false cast on grass and the casts should be horizontal in all planes. But casting horizontally when fishing is an unforced error. Imagine fishing on the beach and you cast horizontally straight out over the water, then the line and the leader will unroll several feet above the surface. Now, we are always dealing with wind and if we deliver horizontally the wind has several feet to mess with our presentation.

For some reason, casters find it difficult at first to tilt their trajectories like that but they must. If casters would regularly watch their backcasts they would catch on quicker. The closer the intended delivery is, the higher the backcast must be. The trajectory, of course, flattens out as the target moves away from the caster, but the 180-degree rule always applies.

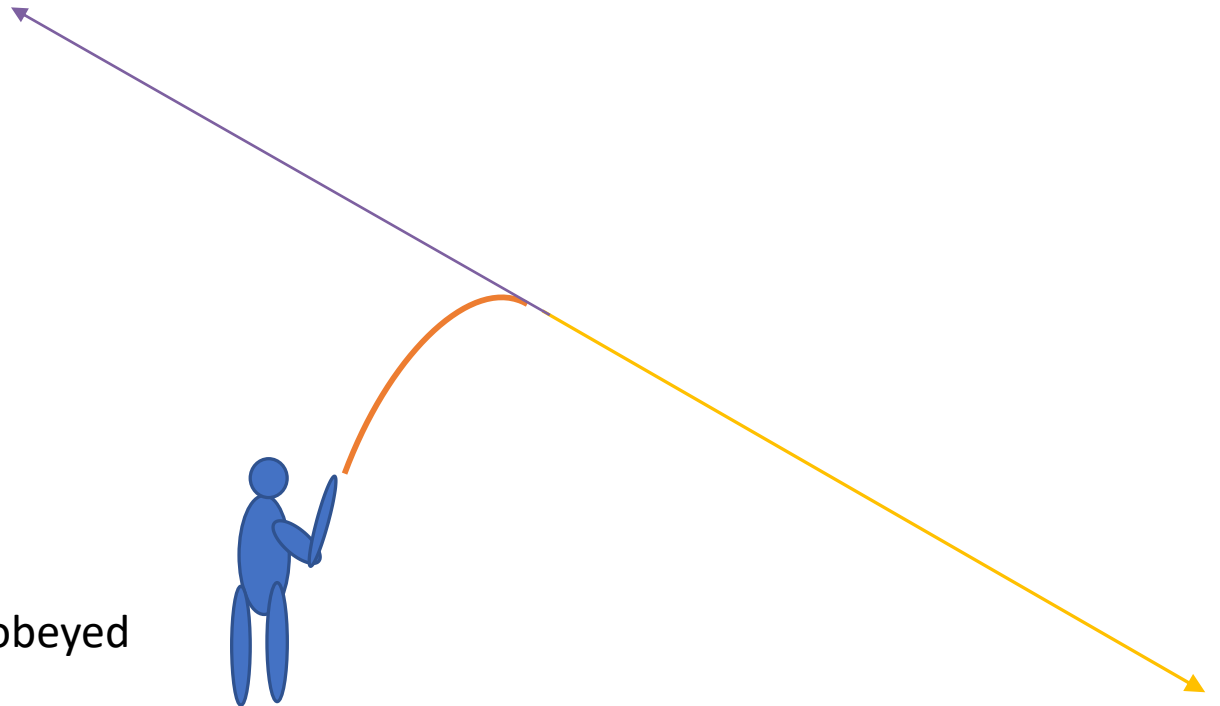
It is especially important to be mindful of this when fishing from a boat because standing on the bow adds still more height to a horizontal cast. Refer to the diagrams on the next page.

Please ask or talk to Jonas about this important tip at our next meeting. //Walt

Violation of 180-degree rule



180-degree rule obeyed





# Enjoy Your Fish!

We were flats fishing in Cuba a few years ago, perhaps at Cayo Cruz on the northern side of the island. As I often do I asked the guide to wade fish when conditions were suitable. Thus, I found myself walking a pristine flat in about a foot of clear water looking for tailing or cruising bonefish. We soon spotted our quarry, and I made the cast and hooked up. He (or she) took off on a long run and I was all set. However, I noticed another fish tailing nearby and pointed it out to my guide. He was a young Cuban guy who spoke conversational English. He replied, don't worry about that other fish, **just enjoy your fish**. That phrase stuck with me and I am thankful that young man reminded me to stay in the moment and enjoy the experience at hand.

Fast forward to July, 2022, and I am fishing the White River with my friend Rick. The White is well known for the size and numbers of fish. Rick hooked a nice rainbow trout and as he was playing it I said take your time and enjoy your fish. On the White it's easy to get caught up in numbers and not appreciate each fish. He and our guide both laughed and agreed to enjoy our fish. That became our mantra for the week as we reminded each other to stay in the moment and savor our experience.

So, my fellow fly fishers, I encourage you to take the advice of my young, but wise guide in Cuba and enjoy your fish! Or, find another moment or two to savor on any outing. Fly fishing take us to beautiful places, be it a mountain stream or ocean flat, with many things to enjoy and appreciate. //Walt



# White River, Arkansas

## Mid-July 2022

I fished the White River with club member and good friend Rick Valeri for four days in mid-July near Mountain Home, Arkansas. Chuck Farneth guided us to four great days of trout fishing. Chuck lived on the Little Red and ran a lodge and guided the White and Little Red for many years. He now commutes from Tennessee and guides part time for friends and clients.

We stayed at Y - Cabin Resort located in Salesville, AR. They rent very comfortable cabins with kitchens for \$70 a night. This offered a 10 to 30 minute drive to multiple places for Chuck to launch his 22-foot long boat. These boats are designed for the White River and are very good for two anglers and a guide. Most everyone runs a jet drive for low water. This is a tailwater and the dam flows will dictate river conditions. The good news is you have about 75 miles of cold water that provides perfect habitat for trout and the insects they eat. Thus, the White is well known for the numbers and size of the trout. It's also a big river, 50 to 75 yards wide, and runs to 10 feet deep depending on the generation of the dam. Nonetheless, the White fished well at all levels.

The most effective technique is indicator fishing with a nymph and a midge. Chuck hooked us up with tungsten bead nymphs to get them down near the bottom where the fish like to feed. This meant high, short casts with 3 to 5 feet below your indicator. However, we also fished streamers and dry flies. I caught my biggest fish, a 24 inch brown, on a black woolly bugger I tied. Streamer fishing was most effective with a sink tip line. We also caught a big, rather late hatch of sulfurs the last two days. This made for superb dry fly fishing for rainbows and browns on size 16 or 18 flies with 6x tippet. The big browns would also hit hoppers placed close to the bank. The water is clear and you can often spot fish. The weather was hot and sunny, but the cool river (45 degrees) helped.

Rick is always seeking a fishing partner on the White as he goes several time a year. Let him know if you would like to go and experience this great adventure. As a bonus, we ate well at several local restaurants. I highly recommend this river and fishing with Rick and Chuck. //Walt



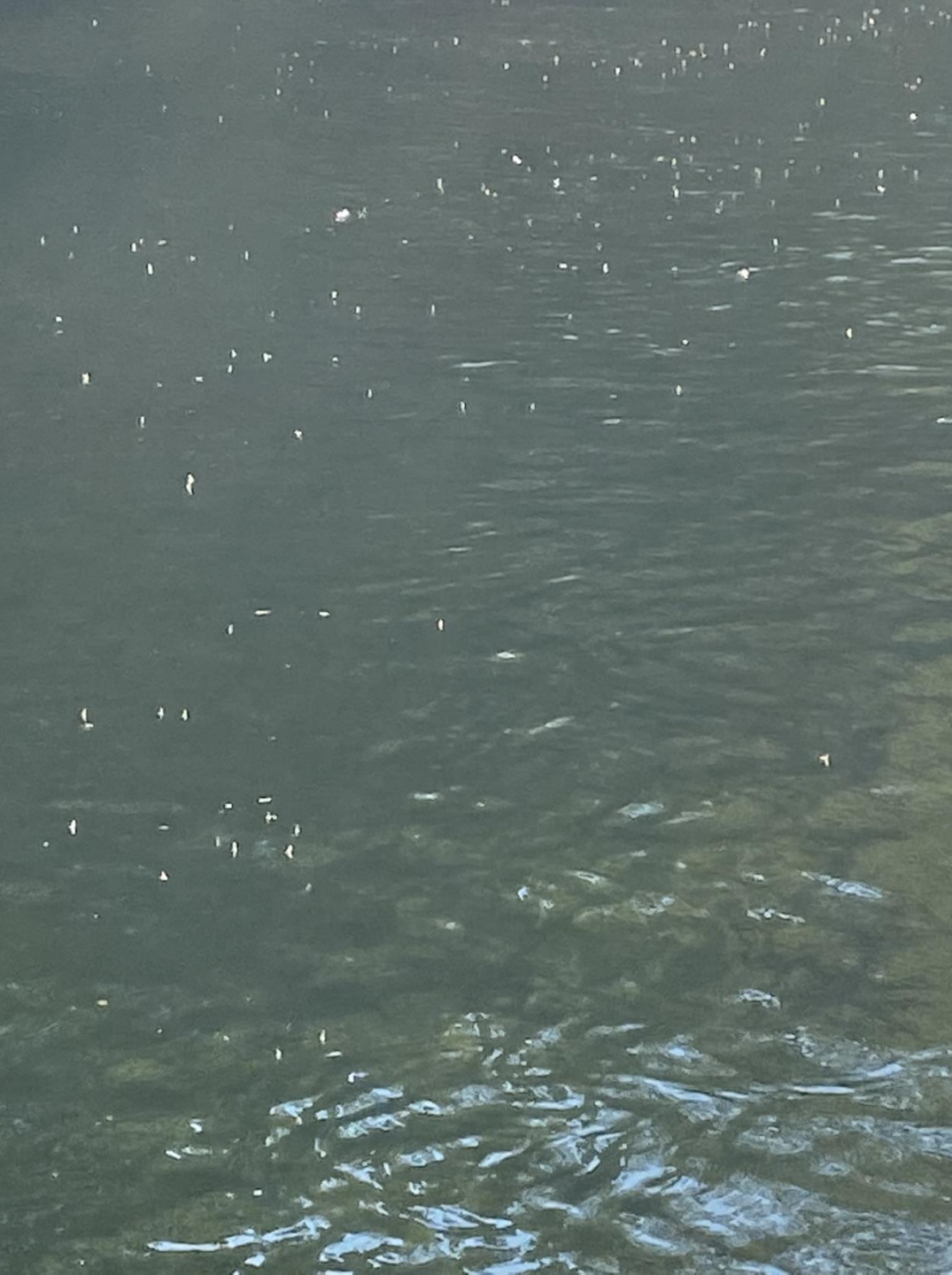










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# Colorado fishing: North and South forks of the Poudre and Red Feather Lakes





A deer along the North Fork of the Poudre river and Bruce Anderson with a nice trout.





## **FWC Approves Changes For Redfish In State Waters Following Final Rule Hearing.**

At its July meeting, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) approved new management regions and regulation changes for redfish in state waters following the final rule hearing.

These regulation changes, which go into effect Sept. 1, 2022, will:

- Establish nine redfish management regions.
- Prohibit captain and crew from retaining a bag limit of redfish when on a for-hire trip.
- Reduce the off-the-water transport limit from six to four fish per person.
- Reduce the vessel limit in each of the management regions to be:
  - Panhandle, Big Bend, Northeast: four fish.
  - Tampa Bay, Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Southwest, Southeast: two fish.
- Allow only catch-and-release fishing for redfish in the Indian River Lagoon region.
- **Set the bag limit to one fish** in the Panhandle, Big Bend, **Tampa Bay**, Sarasota Bay, Charlotte Harbor, Southwest, Southeast and Northeast regions.
- This is a reduction to the bag limit in the Northeast region.

“With this new forward-thinking management approach, we’re trying to do what’s best for this fishery. This agency is committed to working proactively to conserve the redfish fishery in Florida for future generations while balancing stakeholder interests,” said FWC Commissioner Steven Hudson.

## GA DNR and BTT Launch Tarpon Education Initiative

This article from the BTT newsletter:

BTT is partnering with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to educate anglers about the best handling practices for tarpon. All licensed charter captains in Georgia will receive our new Tarpon Tips boat towel, which is also available at the Georgia DNR website. Learn more about tarpon best handling practices and how you can ensure a healthy release for your catch!

### TARPON TIPS

- Use **CIRCLE HOOKS**. Cut line of deep hooks
- **MINIMIZE** fight time and handling
- Keep tarpon **IN WATER**
- Grasp with **HANDS**, not gaff
- Avoid **PREDATORS** and **REVIVE** tired tarpon



Learn more at [CoastalGaDNR.org/TarponTips](http://CoastalGaDNR.org/TarponTips)

Illustration by Susan Rieckmann / Bonefish & Tarpon Trust



Kelly and Wes are in Alaska fishing the Kvichak River (outlet to Lake Illamna). They are catching sockeye salmon, rainbow trout and grayling.





Club member Joe Souza on the Colorado River near Granby with a trout and club member Robert Fischer with a Georgia pond bass. Good Job guys!





Club member Jerry Kells sends us this: “22” fluke from the great state of RI. Albies and bonito are not here yet”.





## Trolling Motor For Sale

Club member Robert Fischer is selling this trolling motor. Motor Guide W75 Remote Control Trolling Motor; 24 volt, 48" shaft; very good condition. \$350. Call Robert at 813-495-5685.





## **Fishing Report and Forecast**

### **“What a great time to go fishing!”**

Capt. Pat Damico, Tampa Times Captain's Corner: **Fly rodding for pond bass!**

Most Florida freshwater ponds have a healthy bass population. Even if never stocked, wading birds will transport tiny eggs or fry to give panfish a start. The surface activity you see on your local community water impoundment will give you a clue. Bright sunny days will help you locate fish because they are often concentrated. Shallow ponds don't have a deep-water escape from the sun and heat. Docks, rafts, bridges, lily pads, undercut banks and logs will provide a comfortable resting place for bass to hang out. This is where you should concentrate your efforts. Use a 6- or 7-weight fly rod with a floating weight forward line. Many companies offer a bass taper especially designed for this purpose. Include a 9-foot knotless tapered leader with a 10-pound tippet. Foam or cork poppers that imitate frogs are great but white, yellow, black, and chartreuse, especially with rubber legs, will work. A weed guard will prevent grass and floating debris from fouling. Cast from a stealthy position avoiding your shadow. Early morning and evening are preferred times. Work your offering slowly, pausing often, and expect explosive surface strikes. Walk softly on the shore to prevent vibration that will scare fish.

Fly fisherman and casting instructor Pat Damico charts Fly Guy in lower Tampa Bay and can be reached at [captpatdamico.com](http://captpatdamico.com) and 727-504-8649.

**Capt Rick Grasset reports:** Many tarpon will move into estuaries this month. You may also find juvenile tarpon in creeks, canals and turning basins. Reds should be schooling on shallow flats and big trout will prow the same waters at dawn. Also, look for trout on deep grass flats mixed with blues, pompano, Spanish mackerel and more. Catch and release snook fishing should be good around lighted docks at night or in the surf. Look for false albacore (little tunny) to possibly show up in the coastal gulf later in the month.

You'll find snook this month around lighted docks and bridges in the ICW and in the surf. Small white flies, like my Grasset Snook Minnow or Gurglers, should all work well. The same flies will work at night and in the surf, although you should be observant of what size baits are in those areas.

Reds should school up this month. You should find them on shallow flats where they'll be easier to find when the tide is low. Look for "nervous" water when it is slick calm or a slick patch of water when there is a ripple on the water. They may push a wake that looks like a boat wake. I try to be as quiet as possible in shallow water, poling to locate them. Once you've located a school of reds, try to get ahead of them to intercept them, much like tarpon fishing. If you work around the edges of the school, you may be able to catch a few of them before they spook. We often also find big jacks, blues and other predators in the mix along with reds. Fly poppers or Gurglers may draw some big strikes! Fin-Addict Guide Service, Inc.; E-mail [snookfin@aol.com](mailto:snookfin@aol.com); (941) 923-7799





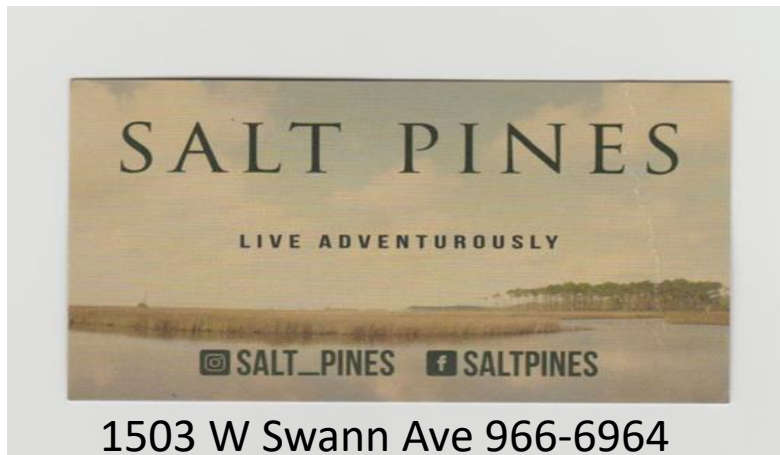
## 2022 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Jan 8 Casting Clinic
- Jan 15 Red Fly Tournament
- June 25 Lake Calm Freshwater Outing
- Oct (virtual) Marine Quest, St Pete
- Oct Carl Hanson Outing
- Nov Chattooga Trip for trout
- Nov Big Gun, Picnic Island
- Cancelled Florida Sportsman Show
- Dec Play Hooky at the Suncoast  
Youth Center
- Dec Don Coleman Outing, Ft Desoto

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- Monthly Meetings with informative speakers
- Fishing Trips Sponsored by Members and the Club
- Group Clinics and Workshops
- Fly Tying Lessons
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