

NOVA SCOTIA TROUT FISHING STORIES & SECRETS

Bob Boudreau and Patrick Donoghue are co-editing a new book on Trout Fishing in Nova Scotia (title to be determined). They do not believe such a book has ever been created in the province other than "Nova Scotia's Speckled Trout versus The Angling Novice" written by H.E. (Ted) Parker 1973. The new book will represent the consolidation of contributions from famous and not so famous Nova Scotia fishermen.

All net proceeds from the book will be donated to Trout Nova Scotia.

They have already had very (a number of) positive comments and contribution commitments from a number variety of previously published authors. They continue to look for good stories, secret locations, techniques, and patterns etc. for the book. If you have interesting, humorous, instructional or educational stories or articles, contact either Bob Boudreau: salmon@attcanada.ca (902) 422-0512 or, Patrick Donoghue: ppdono@ns.sympatico.ca. For more information on the book's objectives and requirements, visit Pat's web site: <http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/ppdono/tnstbook.htm>

Sport & RV Show

Thanks to all our members and contributors for making this year's show so successful.

The Trail Shop, Pets Unlimited,
Hatcheries Program NS Inland Fisheries,
The Camera Corner, New Minas
Sackville Rivers Assoc., and our
Booth & Fly Tier Volunteers

Hats, crests & buttons

Our quality Trout Nova Scotia Hats, crests & buttons are selling well. So much so that we ordered more.

They are available by mail at the following prices.

Hats \$12.00 Crests \$5 Buttons \$2

all prices include post delivery.

Place your order with Claude Cochrane:
troutns@hotmail.com

Great Prizes!!! Why not buy a few books! TNS Raffle tickets for sale

Complete Fenwick Fly Fishing Outfit \$250 from Fenwick Canada & Fish'n Fever
Patagonia Fishing Vest \$200 from Trail Shop
Camo Winter hunting Jacket \$200 from Jeff Forbes TNS member
Numbered Wildlife Print \$175 from Ella Cochrane TNS member
Diawa Algonquin #5 Fly rod \$100 from Green Highlander Fly Shop
Golf Bag \$100 from Tom Lee TNS member
Cortland 444 fly line \$50 from Corbett's Sporting goods
Fly reel, Line & backing \$50 from Baird's Snow country
Fly Fishing Note Cards \$40 from Atlantic Stock Images
Food Voucher \$25 from Annon.

Contact Gary Corbett:
troutns@hotmail.com

New Mailing Address for TNS:

**P.O. Box 8442 Station A
Halifax N.S. B3K 5M2**

Red Belly Dace



Join Us, become a member of Trout NS

Yes, I want to be a member of Trout Nova Scotia and help insure an improved and sustainable trout fishery in the province for future generations. For more information or to send in your membership contact:

Reg Baird, Membership, Trout Nova Scotia, P.O. Box 22, Clementsvale, N.S. B0S 1G0
T 902-467-3126 F 902-467-0106 e mail: troutns@hotmail.com www.troutnovascotia.ca

Associate (under sixteen): \$ 6.00 Family Membership: \$ 20.00
Regular Member : \$ 15.00 Corporate Membership: \$ 60.00 Donation: \$ _____

Name: _____
Address: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____ E Mail: _____
Total enclosed \$ _____

Riffles & Pools

Dedicated to the preservation of Nova Scotia's trout

President's Musings

George Taylor

Over the past two years I have spoken with trout anglers from one end of Nova Scotia to the other. Whether from Shelburne, Ecum Secum or the Margaree, we all have in common a love for Speckled Brook trout and the desire to pursue them. Unfortunately the thing we don't have in common is a quality fishery in all of our "own back yards."

I took out a map of Nova Scotia and circled the lake and river systems that I'm aware of, that generally have a below average Brook trout fishery. It shocked me to have well over half of my map in red circles. Try it ...it's an eye opener.

In general the quality of trout habitat in Nova Scotia is steadily diminishing but the desire to pursue trout remains steady. What I see happening are more anglers willing to leave their own back yards and travel to the best remaining areas of the province. The bottom line is that the few remaining Brook trout oases are being fished by a growing number of us coming from greater distances. With today's cyber communication there is no secret fishing areas left. Over the past ten years the access from new roads and the increase of ATV use has dramatically opened up the remaining wild areas. "Remote" in Nova Scotia is no longer remote. Just take a moment to think about the wild areas that you once knew that no longer exist.

So what can we do? The time has come when all 50,000 of us who love to fish for wild trout must step up and be willing to make some changes. First, it's critical that we individually work to understand the problems. If we enjoy this resource then all of us must take some responsibility for it's future. Regulation changes that will keep mobile anglers from over fishing any one system are a must. Adopting and adhering to regulations that protect habitat and reduce overfishing is the first thing we can do to make a difference.

By refusing to do so will result in the spiral decline of trout leading to the red circling of another watershed. Let's all take responsibility to insure that this does not happen. Our children and grand children deserve to enjoy all of the good things in life that come from time on our rivers and lakes with the wild trout of Nova Scotia.

At the close of the AGM on March 28/02, TNS has grown to 190 members. We had 39 new members join in March alone (Sport Show 21, AGM 18).

Membership Grows and Grows

With so much to do, renewal notices did not get sent out prior to the AGM. If you have not already done so, please take a moment to renew your membership for 2002.

(See back cover for details)

Our children and grand children deserve to enjoy all the good things in life that come from time on our rivers and lakes with the wild trout of Nova Scotia.





Trout Nova Scotia
CONSERVING NOVA SCOTIA'S TROUT

President

George Taylor

Secretary

Lyle Goldberg

Treasurer

Tom Lee

Membership

Reg Baird

Newsletter

Jamie Steeves

Website

Pat Donoghue

Directors

George Taylor

Tom Lee

Claude Cochrane

Reg Baird

Gary Corbett

Lyle Goldberg

Tony Borowsky

Mark Quade

Carl Purcell

Directors at Large

Peter Budreski

The Executive meets the first full week each month.

Rifles & Pools is published four times per year. Deadlines for 2002 submissions are: February 2, April 6, June 1, September 28.

The Editor reserves the right to edit for length and clarity.

Trout Nova Scotia
P.O. Box 8442 Stn. A
Halifax, N.S.
B3K 5M2

e mail: secretary@troutnovascotia.ca
www.troutnovascotia.ca

TNS supports
Fin Fish court challenge

Despite overwhelming local opposition to an application to establish a fin fish aquaculture operation, the Provincial Government granted a license. The community has rallied and set out to have the ruling overturned by taking the case to court. The court challenge is expected to cost tens of thousands of dollars. During the February TNS Board meeting Trout NS Directors accepted a motion to lend support as follows:

Phil Lamont & Peter Cobbold, Co-Chairs
Stop Application 1169 - Horse Island Fish Farm
2699 Northwest Cove, RR 1
Hubbards NS B0J 1T0

Dear Sirs:

Re: Help with NW Cove Appeal of Fish Farm at Horse Island

On behalf of Trout Nova Scotia, I am writing to express our organization's concern over the granting of a finfish aquaculture license in the area of Northwest Cove area of Nova Scotia. To support your legal efforts against the finfish operation, Trout Nova Scotia has enclosed a \$100.00 cheque .

The effects of finfish aquaculture in the ocean are being seen world wide and it is time that the Nova Scotia government place a moratorium on the granting of licenses.

The approval of a 2.88 hectare finfish operation to contain 240,000 fish near Horse Island, Northwest Cove is cause for alarm. Of particular concern to Trout Nova Scotia is the decrease or loss of wild fish stocks within a 20 km radius of finfish operations. Loss of wild stocks due to disease, parasites, fecal/food contamination, chemical/pharmacological additives and escapes into natural systems are well known around established finfish operations in Norway, Scotland and our own Bay of Fundy.

In St. Margaret's Bay there are several watersheds with wild trout populations and one with wild salmon that flow into the Bay. These would be directly affected by the proposed operation at Horse Island.

Two of these river systems already have special conservation / protection regulations; the Ingram River for its salmon and trout, and Woodens River for its sea run trout. Several other rivers with known wild trout populations would also be affected. These flow into the Bay at Hubbards and at the Head of the Bay. Collectively these watersheds cover a large land area and have a long history of sport fishing. Sport fishing in St. Margaret's Bay continues to be an important activity for residents, other Nova Scotians as well as visitors from out of province. The last thing we need is additional pressure from a finfish operation on our native wild fish stocks.

We wish you every success with your fundraiser March 9 in Northwest Cove and your appeal against Aquafish Technologies' Lease and License.

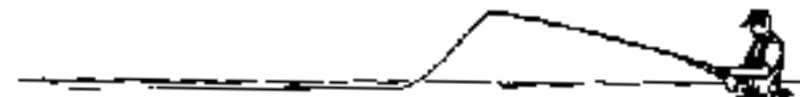


Photo © James Steeves

Questions & Answers with Reg Baird

Q. Can you give me any information on "breathable waders?"

Definition: When 40f (5c) water leaks through the crotch of your waders, it takes your breath away. Therefore according to my terminology "breathable waders" are ones that don't leak.

A #1. The concensus of the information I received when putting this question to those in the know, is that, like most products, you only get what you pay for and you can expect to pay \$400.00+ for top of the line waders. For a break down of detailed field tests on practically every known brand of breathable waders log on:

www.flyfishamerica.com/ArticlesReports/GeneralArticles/FFAstaff/waders.html

The reader may also be interested in the following response from Bob Boudreau to the same question.

A #2. Bob writes: I have tried breathable waders for some years now and have found what I believe to be one of the most rugged and dependable available. I've used the Simms Guide Model Breathables for three years and they are as good as new. My friend Paddy is using the only other pair that I think are comparable made by Patagonia. I have tried others but they have all leaked within the first year either through poor quality or because they could not withstand the rigours of "full contact fishing". Having said that Tom Lee has had a light weight pair of Orvis ones that have lasted him quite a while. The quality of Breathables has improved with the years but I would suggest the following no matter what you are buying:

- 1) Make sure the waders have at least a one year, full refund at the dealer no questions asked warranty (not replacement because you don't want another leaky pair of waders).
- 2) Make sure you buy them at a fishing store or dealer who is concerned with service and backing their products i.e. they will give you your money back or exchange for a different pair of waders then and there. You don't want to be in a 6 month wait and see situation between Manufacturer and dealer while you have no waders for the rest of the season.
- 3) Its still true as Reg says, "You get what you pay for."



TROUT DID YOU KNOW ? with Gary Corbett

How well do you know trout? Can trout hear, smell and talk? What is inside a trout? Over the next few issues I will endeavor to answer some of these questions. Let's start outside the trout body.

Trout are streamlined creatures which rely on fins as a means of moving forward, up, down and sideways. Trout have eight fins including two groups of paired fins. Each fin is supported by stiff rays which enable the fish to shape or undulate the fin and make precise delicate movements. The Caudal or tail fin provides forward propulsion and gives it that burst of speed. The dorsal fin (top of body) and anal fin (underneath just ahead of the tail) are used to keep the body upright and also for steering. The pelvic fins are just ahead of the anal fin and serve to help move the fish left, right or backward. The other paired fins are the pectoral fins found below and just behind the gills. These are used to move the trout up or down. The last fin is the adipose fin, meaning fatty - that little knob just ahead of the caudal fin. It is a vestigial fin, a remnant of ancestral fish which actually had a fin there. There is another essential way that trout move up and down - through the use of a "swim bladder." This thin-walled sac located at the top of the body cavity contains a mixture of carbon dioxide, oxygen and nitrogen obtained from the bloodstream. It's main use is to provide neutral buoyancy; however, the fish can adjust this to make it easier to stay on bottom when necessary.

Have you ever wondered why trout don't have eyelids like frogs or turtles. With such large eyes aren't they at risk of being damaged? Actually, trout have very durable eyes (cornea). They don't have to worry about them getting dry and swimming keeps them clean. The fact that they don't have eyelids means that they must seek bottom shade when the sun is bright and water clear. This could be an explanation for why trout are usually inactive on bright days, except when the hatch is on and they are really hungry!

What about hearing, you don't see any external ears on a trout. They pick up sounds that travel through the bones of the skull to an inner ear where they are processed and sent to the brain. They also have semicircular canals which help determine balance much the same as a human inner ear. Trout also have a lateral line running the length of their bodies near the surface of the skin. This is actually a nerve which picks up vibrations from the water and sends them along as signals to the brain. So now you know why it is important to stay quiet when you are in water and not move too much while fishing!

We all know that fish smell, but can they smell us? Well, they sure can; trout have nostrils and olfactory lobes on the brain for smell detection. Now for the last question, can trout talk? This is more difficult; I have not had one come to the surface and speak to me yet, however I have heard a story about sharks coming in near swimming beaches and yelling - "Bear, Bear - Run" to frighten people into jumping into the water! Seriously though, many fish species do make sounds that I suppose are interpreted by others of the species into something useful. Maybe trout do (as well); only research will determine this. I do know that all anglers are being called to the water now and trout are certainly doing the calling!

TAiLS from the waters

"BIG BAIT"---"BIG FISH" by Claude Cochrane

Big bait for big fish was something my father instilled in me especially when trolling big water for keeper trout. I smiled as I thought about that while standing on the shore of Legend's Lake, armed with my light fly rod, three pound leader and number 14 dry. Legend's has yielded more large trout and provided more tall tales that could be seen or told in a single day. The mounted specimens adorning the walls of the area's dying lodges are a sad testimonial to by-gone days. I was recently told by an elderly guide that he had seen a huge fish break on each of his last two visits. My visit today is of course a reaction to that red flag.

Standing on a rocky point between two deep coves provided me with a good chance of intercepting a cruising fish. Beside me a shallow bath tub size notch in the rock provided an excellent landing site if I were to connect. Casting was easy; the light wind gave my small dry the perfect movement. After 20 minutes I changed to a number 16, same tie. A small splash as a tiny trout nailed my offering. I was easing it towards shore when a trout about 7 inches long came from under a rock not ten feet in front of me, swallowed my fish and away it went. Jumped once and then quieted down as it neared shore. I watched in total amazement as another trout, maybe 13 inches grabbed trout number 2, "playing out" my number 3 fish. I thought to myself, no one will ever believe this story.

You can now imagine my thoughts as the largest trout I have ever seen came up from the dark water and nailed my third fish, swallowed it completely and away it went. My reel was screaming as I watched my backing disappear, gradually tightening the drag caused the big fish to slow, I turned it with only a small amount of backing to spare. As the fish neared shore, I know it was not my imagination, I saw a shadow under my fish. a resemblance of, no, it couldn't have been, the hair on the back of my neck stood "straight up," maybe that quick gust of wind and a small cloud created the image. Of, course, what else.

I maneuvered the big fish into the shallow basin and when inside I knelt in the water, blocking the exit. Placing the rod butt beside the nose of the fish, I marked the rod shaft opposite the tail. This distance was later measured at 27 inches. Now, to release the fish, I held the trout by the tail with one hand and gently pulled on the leader with the other. Out came the third trout, very much alive. The same procedure released the 7 inch trout still showing lots of life. I slowly removed the fingerling, and incredibly it was still breathing. I gently moved it back and forth a few times and away it went. There were now four live trout in the shallow basin and none showing any ill effect from their ordeal. I stood up and soon each trout swam away from the tiny pool.

Truly unbelievable, cast a number 16 dry, it changed to a four inch live without a second cast. You were right, Dad - "Big Bait" for "Big Fish."



And speaking of bait, was that imitation bait being given away as a door prize?

The crowd roared!

Question:
Is scented imitation bait considered under the rules to be live bait or a lure?

A group of "TNS WEB HEADS" is working towards improving our website by adding new features and serving our members in new ways. Check us out:

www.troutnovascotia.ca

TNS bits On bites

~TNS Prez speaks with Minister Fage and receives assurances of continued support for Special Trout Management Areas.

~TNS lends support to Margaree River trout project.

~TNS receives funding for educational brochure on NS trout conservation issues.

~TNS seeks not for profit charitable status.

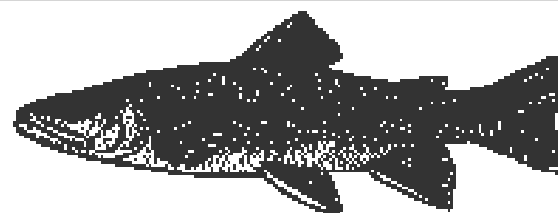
~ Directors complete River Watch program in March.

~Thanks to Alan Perry TNS member for providing "future vision" planning session for TNS Directors.

~ TNS AGM puts first constitution and by-laws in place and elects its first full Board of Directors.

Trout Nova Scotia

TNS is the leading advocate for the trout fishery in Nova Scotia. Our volunteers work with government and other organizations towards program and policy development that positively impacts trout, trout habitat and sustainable trout fishing practices. Our purpose is to ensure an improved and sustainable trout fishery in the province of Nova Scotia for future generations.



ATV's, for Good or Bad? by Mark Quade

I hunt and fish a lot but nothing perturbs me more than having the call of a loon or the tranquility of a misty still water disturbed by the sounds of a ATV coming up the valley I just walked. It just isn't fair! I just bush walked several kilometers to get away from my urban lifestyle. I just want peace and quiet! These days, ATV's are a common sight as more and more people want to experience the pleasures we take for granted. I guess what got a bee in my bonnet was a spring trip I made into a still water north of Porters Lake.

I drove an hour from my house to get there. A friend at work had told me about it, what fly to use and what rocks held good lies. You get the picture, imagine my excitement. I parked the truck donned my waders, tied on a #12 mayfly, grabbed my rucksack and proceeded to walk in. It was a pleasurable walk. The sun had barely lit the skyline and the day looked oh so promising. As I approached the brook I began to hear a low rumble. I continued walking, the reward of landing a few Brookies would be worth the hike in. I could hear the tinkling sound of a brook a-h-h-h music to my ears. I was really close now, but that rumble was still there, it grew louder and louder. I was almost there...I just had to cross the brook and there was my friend's honey hole. All of a sudden an onrush of ATV's crashed through behind me and tore through the brook I just waded! Fifteen ATV's in a matter of a few seconds turned that lovely brook into muddy silt infested mess. Sound familiar? I realize of course that not all ATV drivers or ATV clubs are irresponsible. But surely, our provincial government is irresponsible. I say this because I have been seeking answers from the Government since May of 2001. The following is my email sent to Mr. Ernie Fage:

"I am a concerned angler and hunter. My father as was his father hunted and fished. All three of our generations took satisfaction from walking to our respective woodlands and streams and carting out game/fish from the bush. What bothers me the most is that with the introduction of ATV's it is harder and harder to find remote areas that are untouched by ATV's. I realize that it is not practical to have them banned from our resources but, can we at least not limit their use to designated ATV trails and Club owned lands. I recently fished a brook nearby and was very discouraged to see the siltation run off from a feeder stream. This will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on the resident population of trout and other wildlife who depend on its sustenance for survival. My email is to request what legislation your department may have introduced, to limit the destruction of habitat. Also if you have any studies that have been carried out into the effects of ATV's to habitat and wildlife could you possibly forward this information with your reply. I also realize the economic benefit to communities which employ ATV's, but I believe we have to come to a very fine balance on what we cherish the most. Do we want the resources we have now and enjoy the outdoors we and our father have enjoyed so that we may impart our love of hunting and fishing to our children. Or, do we continue in our wanton destruction and displacement. In the end we will reap what we sow. I look forward to your reply."

Mr. Randy Milton Manager, Wildlife Resources Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Programme Department of Natural Resources replied:

"Please forgive the delay in responding to your e-mail to Minister Fage. A working group with representatives from the Departments of Transportation and Public Works, Agriculture and Fisheries, Natural Resources, Environment and Labor, Justice, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations and the Sport and Recreation Commission is looking at issues surrounding ATV's. The Committee is chaired by myself, Randy Milton. I can be reached at (902) 679-6224, or by e-mail: miltongr@gov.ns.ca. We are hoping to send our report to senior management in the near future on what may be some of the options to address public and government concerns and desires regarding off-highway vehicle use in Nova Scotia."

He followed up with another email a few days later, it read:

"The issues you have identified are a concern to the departments involved in management and stewardship of our natural resources. In addition, there is concern by Transportation and Public Works over damage to the ditches along many of our roadways. This damage may provide a source of silt to receive streams. Although provincial agencies work closely with their federal counterparts, legislation to directly prevent the destruction of fish habitat is the mandate of the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. As noted in previous correspondence, the interdepartmental working group is finalizing their report and hope to submit it to senior management in the near future on what may be some of the options to address public and government concerns and desires regarding off-highway vehicle use in Nova Scotia. Actions to protect fish habitat by limiting disruption of stream banks and limiting siltation will be included within the report."

I contacted Mr. Milton recently questioning again the status of the proposed legislation and he immediately replied with this email:

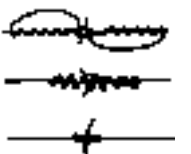
"The Working Group completed and submitted a report to senior management for their consideration. There are age restrictions for using off-highway vehicles. Please refer to the Off-Highway Vehicles Act which can be viewed on the government's web site - go to O and click on Off-Highway Vehicles Act. Refer to section 11 : <http://www.gov.ns.ca/legislature/legc/index.htm>"

At the beginning of all this Jamie Steeves TNS Director had asked me to delve into world of ATV'ing and find out other Provincial standards. I contacted, Saskatchewan, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, North West Territories, Maine and all the Atlantic Provinces. All but three replied and the rest forwarded specific information or provided further contact information. **Only one replied that there was currently no legislation in place, Nova Scotia!**

At this point I'm hoping you feel outrage as I do. I have no ill feeling towards ATV's, so long as they are used responsibly and take measures to prevent habitat destruction. They certainly open up the backcountry, which brings up another ATV issue. That of our under funded, under manned conservation force that is not able to protect or police the backcountry. Interestingly Eastern Woods & Waters Magazine had a leaflet included in the Feb 2002 issue concerning ATV's. "Better ATVing" is obviously a sensitive subject. I think its time to acknowledge that there are problems out there that need solving. I encourage all TNS members to contact the appropriate ministers as I have and encourage them to come up with a better solution to a growing problem. Responsible ATV use is mandatory for protection of wildlife habitat and the future enjoyment of Nova scotia woodlands.

You can direct your interest in this issue by contacting:

Randy Milton Manager, Wildlife Resources Wetlands and Coastal Habitats Programme Department of Natural Resources
136 Exhibition Street Kentville, Nova Scotia B4N 4E5, Canada Tel: 902-679-6224 Fax: 902-679-6176 e-mail: miltongr@gov.ns.ca



LETTERS , to share

Riparian zones and punitive fines....

In answer to your questions:

1. You can find information on the DNR website at www.gov.ns.ca/natr/forestry. Check the list of topics where you will see "Wildlife Habitat and Watercourses Protection Regulations" then click the link.

2. A minimum 20 metre buffer zone or Special Management Zone is required on both sides of streams that are greater than 50cm in width. The Regulations provide for greater widths where there is a sloping stream bank: "Where the land on which a special management zone is established has an average slope within 20 m of a watercourse boundary of greater than 20%, the forestry operator shall increase the width of the special management zone by 1 m for each additional 2% of slope to a maximum of 60 m in width."

The Regulations also provide protection for watercourses that are smaller than 50cm in width: "Where the average width of a watercourse situated on or adjacent to forest land on which a forestry operation is carried on is less than 50 cm, no forestry operator shall permit the use of, use or operate a vehicle for forestry operations within 5 m of the watercourse, except for the purpose of watercourse crossings approved by the Department of Environment and Labour."

3. Regarding your question "What happens to those who do not follow these Regulations?" They would be guilty of an offense under the Forests Act and may be subject to a significant penalties including an order for reparations and prohibition from further forest harvesting on the site.

In the case of a corporation, to a fine not exceeding (\$100,000) and in the case of an individual, to a fine not exceeding (\$50,000) or to imprisonment for a term of not more than six months, or to both. Where an offense under the regulations is committed or continued on more than one day, the person who committed the offense is liable to be convicted for a separate offense for each day on which the offense is committed or continued.

Where a person has been convicted of an offense under the regulations and the court is satisfied that monetary benefits accrued to the person as a result of the commission of the offense, the court may order the person to pay an additional fine in an amount equal to the court's estimation of the amount of the monetary benefits and the additional fine may exceed the maximum amount of any fine that may otherwise be imposed pursuant to the Forests Act.

The Forests Act further states that where a person is convicted of an offense, the court may, in addition to any punishment imposed and having regard to the nature of the offense and the circumstances surrounding its commission, make an order containing one or more of the following prohibitions, directions or requirements:

i. prohibiting the person from doing any act or engaging in any activity that could, in the opinion of the court, result in the continuation or repetition of the offense;

ii. directing the person to take any action that the court considers appropriate to remedy or to prevent any adverse effect that resulted or may result from the commission of the offense; and/or

iii. directing the person to post a bond or to pay into court an amount of money that the court considers appropriate for the purpose of ensuring compliance with any prohibition, direction or requirement pursuant to this Section

Bill Smith
Director - Extension Services Division
NS Dept Of Natural Resources

Thank you for inquiring about Manitoba's barbless hook program

Barbless hooks were first required by law in Manitoba in 1977 for natural brook trout waters in the north. It progressed from there to 1990 when they were required for angling across all of the province. We have always made the point that this was not a stand alone program but merely part of an over all angling management strategy.

Please note that although it is illegal to use a barbed hook in Manitoba, an angler can possess barbed hooks provided they are not attached to a line. We have felt that when regulations require anglers to release significant parts of their catch, it is important that steps be taken to reduce release related mortality as much as possible. By reducing the amount of stress created on fish due to capture, hook removal and release, survival of released fish should be enhanced. The use of barbless hooks reduces the time required to handle fish as hooks are easier to remove, especially from large fish.

While research work to date shows little difference in hook mortality between barbed and barbless hooks, most research has not taken into consideration delayed mortality. We feel that delayed mortality can be significant when fish are excessively handled. The barbless aspect of the angling program has been generally well received and we see this remaining as a significant part of the program. Myths that children cannot catch fish on barbless hooks and that too many fish are lost have been dispelled. As an added bonus, we often hear of instances where people are relieved that hooks were barbless when they had to remove one from themselves or another angler!!

Carl L. Wall, Angling Program Manager
Fisheries Branch, Manitoba Conservation
Box 20 - 200 Saulteaux Crescent
Winnipeg, MB R3J 3W3



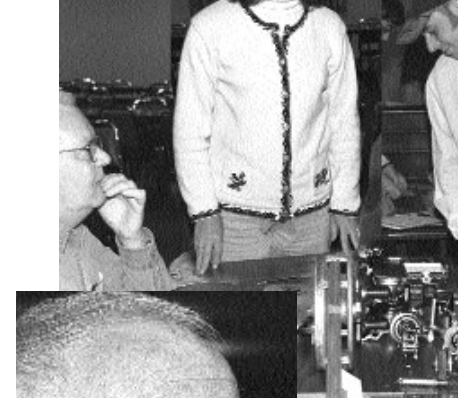
Have you heard of a fly called the Keji Killer?

Does anyone know the originator of the pattern? The most popular version of the pattern is as follows: Thread - black. Tail - red. Body - orange. Rib - silver. Throat - red. Wing - black over white buck tail. Cheek - jungle cock eye.

... and from the WEB:

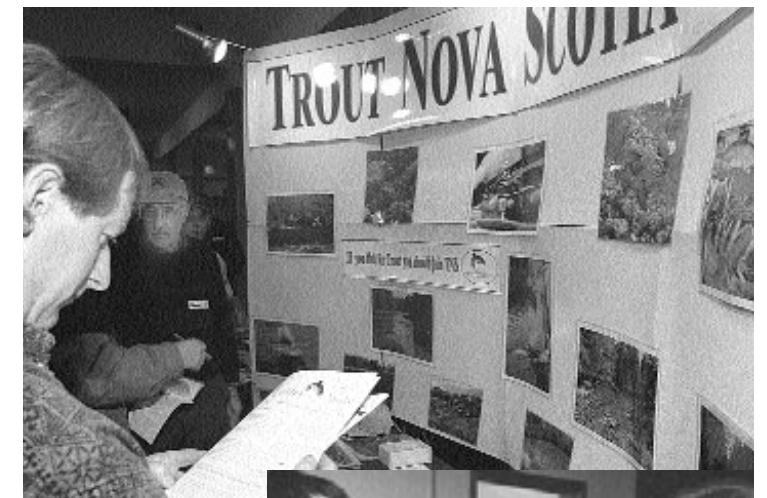
I'm glad to hear that there is a group in NS looking into the state of the trout stocks. You would not believe the number of people here (Wisconsin) that are under the impression that Nova Scotia is an unspoiled fisherman's paradise with massive brook trout populations. When I inform them of the state of the fishery (as I saw it at least) and the impacts of acid rain, conservation (or lack there of) issues, etc, they're floored. The fishing here is, to put it mildly, amazing. Yes, there are some water access issues, but those exist in Nova Scotia as well. But there is lots of water to fish, and there are brown's that go 25+ inches in a lot of this water. Rainbows are also plentiful (a lot of stocked fish) and brookies do thrive in some areas too. (those are closely guarded secrets divulged only on one's deathbed :) I am already planning an outing for this weekend (if the snow stops and the temps come above 32F) as the Early Season (catch/release only, barbless hooks) opens March 2/02. We have an abundance of spring creeks as well as free stone waters around the state that one could not possibly cover in a lifetime of trying...but I'm going to give it a good shot.

Cheers, Tim Cleveland



second AGM a success

March 28, 2002. Bedford Legion, 7PM



AGM night was filled with people, they came early and they stayed late. There were door prizes, raffle tickets, antique tackle displays, videos of interesting fishing, fly tying demos, hats, pins and crests to buy, information to read or take away, a few old tales and lots of lying. There were anglers young and not so young from all over. We had reps from local fly shops, from Inland Fisheries, Nova Scotia Salmon Association and an MLA. Our special guest speaker Bob Bancroft gave a insightful look into the state of Nova Scotia's trout habitat. TNS also got some business done with the election of three new Directors and the acceptance of our new Constitution & Bylaws. Thanks to all who participated and contributed.

