

NEWSLETTER

wmflyfishingclub.com-flyfishingwmclub.com

Established 1996 P.O. Box 2187, Pinetop, AZ 85935 September, 2025

Presidents Column "Tight Lines"

Well folks, this column is coming to you from Salida, CO, as I'm up here fishing the Arkansas River with results to be determined. We got in late last night (090725) and will start fishing today.



Saw several bugs in the area as we are at a campground on the river (BWO & Trico's) so we are hopeful.

It was good to see some rain in our home area and hopefully it continues.

We are all looking forward to our "Banquet" and having a good time.

We want to hear your comments on the banquet in October, all positive I hope.

Bring your fishing stories, as I will have some from this trip. Take Care!!
Mike Whitney- WMFFC President

There was NO September meeting because of the banquet on September 13 at Hon-dah Casino starting at 5 p.m. We will have a couple of tickets at the door for those who desperately want to attend the banquet and for whatever reason haven't been able to pick up tickets.

We have had many, many wonderful donations for the fundraising banquet. We have Silent Auctions and

Raffles and Door Prizes and 50/50. We have kept some of the donations back for our monthly raffles as we've been kind of sparce in the last few months. Thank you to all who have been so generous

SHOW LOW LAKE LIGHT IS UP

FINALLY!!! OUR LIGHT IS UP AND, ACCORDING TO PUBLIC WORKS, SHINES OVER THE ENTIRE BOAT RAMP. WE CAN ALL FISH AT NIGHT FOR THE PREC IOUS AND DELICIOUS WALLEYE. I CAN NOW STOP HAGGELING GAME AND FISH AND CITY OF SHOW LOW. FOR SIX YEARS EVERY SUMMER IT'S BEEN A CONSTANT OPEN TELEPHONE LINE TO RYAN FULLMUTH AND JAY BRIMHALL, AND NOW RECENTLY, TO MIKE MARISCAL. THEY HAVE ALL BEEN GREAT, JUST WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT IS NOT ALWAYS EASY AND NEVER GET'S DONE OVER NIGHT.

THIS IS THE LIGHT, WMFF HAS DECIDED WILL BE THE **DAWN HEWITT LIGHT.** ALL HER MEMORIALS WILL GO TO THE CITY TOWARDS THE COST OF THE LIGHT. HER FAMILY WILL PLACE A PLAQUE.

MARCIE GREENBERG, KITTY WIEMELT AND MARY DURAN



WADING SAFETY

In August of 2019, The High Plains Drifters Fly Fishing Club of Denver, CO. sponsored a fly-fishing trip to Iceland. A very dear friend of mine was on the trip, fishing in a lake when he stepped off a ledge in the lake, went down and drowned. Their guide was unable to reach him in time and resuscitation measures failed. When the group tried to contact his family, no one had any contact information for his wife and family. Several calls to Denver, through members of the club, they were finally able to reach his wife. When the group packed up his belongings in the room where he was staying, they discovered his wading belt laying on his bed. He forgot to take it with him and put it on. Could possibly have saved his life.

Fast forward to Wednesday, September 10, 2025, one of my friends and I decided to fish downstream of Salida, CO on the Arkansas River. I had been previously wearing breathable hip waders which fasten to my pants belt. For some unknown reason I decided that day to wear my pant waders with a built-in safety belt. While wading in the river, I elected to walk in the water around a large boulder instead of climbing up the bank around the boulder. My feet went out from under me, and I was on my back in the river struggling to stay afloat. I was wearing a Patagonia sling pack, and it was behind my back, and I was unable to turn over to right myself. The pack soaked and filled with water holding me down. While struggling to right myself to get my feet back under me to stand and/or crawl out, I noticed my waders full of air had ballooned and kept me up, like a flotation device. I was able to kick my legs over and crawled out on the bank. IF I had elected to wear the hip waders instead, I have no doubt that they would have filled with water and pulled me down to an uncertain ending. I am going to save the hip waders for small stream fishing!!

President Mike Whitney

SEPTEMBER SILVER CREEK CLEAN UP.



Thank you for your clubs support of the volunteer streamside clean up days here at Silver Creek. We again set a new record for turn out and getting the work completed in record time. We had 27 total helpers, 17 of which were volunteers. We treated the complete stream from the top of the middle meadow all the way down to the bridge by noon, which encompases nearly .75 of a mile. Please pass on our gratitude to your members for their assistance. We couldn't do it without you! Attached are group photos with the mound of reeds and bullrush we removed.

GARRETT FABIAN, SILVER CREEK HATCHERY

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WMFFC MISSION STATEMENT:

The Mission Statement of the White Mountain Fly Fishing Club is: "To assist in the development and maintenance of fly fishing opportunities and to promote and participate in fly fishing in its many forms."

We support the practice of "Catch and Release." We support the use of barbless hooks and harmless netting-and-release practices. Fish should never be held out of water for longer than you can hold your breath.

BANQUET FUNDRAISER FOR WMFF. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR THE HON-DAH CASINO, THEY DID A FANTASTIC JOB FOR US. GREAT VENUE! GREAT FOOD! GREAT BANQUET PEOPLE! THANK YOU, AND THANK YOU TO ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HELPED SET UP AND GET IT ALL ORGANIZED, AND TO THOSE WHO ATTENDED.

Banquet 2025. It was my pleasure to present Kitty Wiemelt with "Award of Excellence" for her Persistence, Dedication and Support of the White Mountain Fly Fishing Club-2025, If it were not for Kitty, the WMFFC might not exist as we now know it. Thank you.

Mike Whitney and Gary Miller****





2024-25 WMFFC Board Members

President:	Mike Whitney	(541) 390-5389
Past President:	Barry Curseaden	(623) 398-5242
Vice President:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-6362
Secretary:	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
Treasurer:	Marcie Greenberg	(480) 993-4623
Board Member at Large:	Mary Duran	(928) 229-8999
Board Member at Large:	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
Board Member at Large:	Margie Dennis	(602) 203-6414
Board Member at Large:	Jon Wallace	(480) 694-9865
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Speaker Chairman	Andy Rybolt	(541) 281-2011
Education Chairman:	Gary Miller	(602) 478-0883
Newsletter Chairman/Website:	Kitty Wiemelt	(480) 329-6996
IFFF Representative:	Gary Hall	(480) 510-7381
AZG&F Liaison	Larry Kivela	(480) 695-5162
Inventory Chairman	Scott Dennis	(602) 339-7518

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WHITE MOUNTAIN FLY FISHING FUNDRAISER 2025















More pictures on club's website