

[HIGH DESERT ANGLER NEWSLETTER](#)



We are the oldest established fly fishing business in Santa Fe, Serving Northern New Mexicans and anglers world wide since 1985.

Inside this issue:

CADDIS – RIO GRANDE,

Mother Nature wins again.

Run-off status.

Safe wading tips!!

Cloudveil Hellroaring Chest High Waders and Wading Pants...NEW!!!!!!

FLIES!! FLIES!!! FLIES!!!!!!

NEW Montana Fly Co. Tungsten Lucent Beads in killer colors!!

The new fishing license year started April 1st! The new licenses are available now at the fly shop. Anglers in New Mexico spent an estimated \$295,874,000 in 2006. More than \$125 million was spent on trip-related expenses, and more than \$50 million was spent on food and lodging. As you can see, fishing is an important part of New Mexico's economy. Consider that fishing is still an affordable form of recreation. Just



about wherever you live, there is some fishing to be had within an hour's drive. And please take a kid fishing. It's free if they are 11 and under and \$15 for ages 12 to 17.

The Rio Grande Caddis hatch turned out to be a bust. Hey, Great job to those of you that hit it right even if it was just for a couple of days. Watch the weather, reports, and stream flows; there could still be some fun had on the upper river. Be careful, this water is going to get bigger, I have heard of predictions approaching 4,000 cfs by Memorial Day. We will post any pertinent changes or updates as they roll in.

Just in the last few days our local run-off has shown up with a vengeance. Both the Jemez and the Pecos areas are on the rise. Expect the Jemez to become fishable first, with the Pecos close behind. The

main stem of the Chama is cranking, and I feel we are in for more of the same in southern Colorado as well. I wouldn't be surprised to see some more moisture in the form of snow to show up in the high country, but it sure does feel warm. As far as the next big hatches are concerned get ready for our stoneflies. I don't expect to see too many of them showing themselves significantly early, but you never know. The water has to be on the way down, and the water



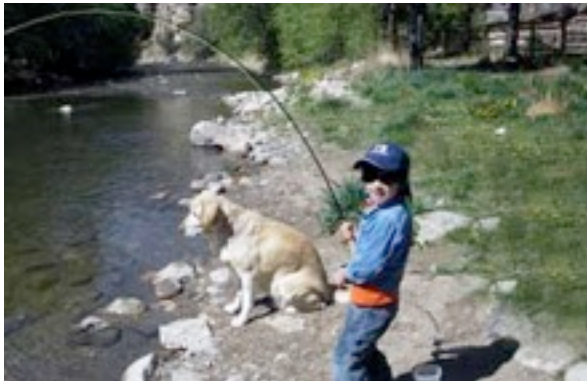
temps in the right parameter for the event to take place. During the rise in water and the drop in water temps the stonefly nymphs are going through changes, crawling out of their winter hide outs and getting kicked up in the water column. These are great patterns to search for feeding fish with, not to mention that when the water is murky, at least they can see them coming!!

High water means sketchy wading so here are a few common sense ideas to help keep you safe, dry and warm. Heck lets face it, fishing in the high water is fun, it can be a real challenge, and very productive as

well. First off, wear your chest highs, and a belt. Run-off time is no place for hippers unless you know exactly what you're getting into. Think about what you wear as well, it can still be cold in the morning, and the water is frigid. Try the quick drying materials, and some nice layering pieces for both the upper and lower body. I find it comfortable to be in a pair of fleece pants, or some quick drying fishing pants with my Capilene underneath. A light shell and a light Simms Rivertek shirt is usually enough mid-day. This way if I do take a stumble, I have far less water coming in my waders with the belt around my waist and a waterproof shell on the outside, I went in over my head on a small tributary in B.C. chasing Steelhead, luckily the guides talked me into wearing this system and didn't hardly get wet at all. I watched Ed get thrown out of a raft on the San Juan one winter during an evasive maneuver, he went way under water, he even blew bubbles, and once we got him in the boat he wasn't even damp except for his hair. My point here is just to be prepared, and always take an extra pair of clothes. When it comes to the actual wading, use a staff!! I'll bet all my guides have one, and I know I do. Pick your spots to cross or access the hole you want to fish and more importantly make sure you have an exit strategy too. Just like when you were a kid, don't climb up if you're not prepared to climb down!!

Cloudveil has introduced a brand new wader and pant to the line

called the Hellroaring!!! Don't let the name fool you, I think these waders could go through hell, and then make you roar with confidence as you wade the roughest stream side vegetation you can find. No they are not bullet proof, no soft good is, but they are made extremely well and have the bells and whistles your looking for.



First off, they are made of 4 and 5 layered Cloudburst Emergence, a very durable and highly breathable material exclusive to Cloudveil. The Chest wader has waterproof zippered hand warmer pockets, and built in gravel guards. The Pants are perfect for our smaller streams with built in gravel guards as well, and POCKETS!! Yes, the pant pockets are zippered and waterproof too!! I love this style, it feels like wearing a pair of pants, I can sit on a wet log, or a wet rock, and not worry about splashing my rear end in a stumble. Come in and try a pair on, I know you'll like them!!

FLIES!! FLIES!!! AND MORE FLIES!!!! High Desert Angler has always had a great fly selection, and this season is no different. We are starting to receive the first shipments for the 09

season, expect more of your favorites, and some new ones too!! Damn, we got a lot of flies! Topping off the list of new patterns is the Aerial Assault, and the Candy Corn. These are excellent attractor/terrestrial patterns that are perfect for suspending large nymphs on a dry-dropper set up, and believe me they float like a boat!! The coolest thing about these flies is that these are Norman Maktima's first mass produced patterns, he has been welcomed to the family of signature tiers at Umpqua Feather Merchants. Not only is this a sign of his master fly tying abilities, it is a real honor for us to have him as our senior guide. Come in and check these babies out, I am sure they will perform well in every aspect of their design.

The New Translucent Tungsten beads from Montana fly company are here, and I can't keep the guides off of them. I am trying to save some for our fly tiers!! There are some really cool new colors and lots of sizes as well. These beads are sure to be a hit judging by the response of our guides and resident tiers who have already bought some. I can already see some really innovative adjustments to some of the already proven patterns we know and love. Not to mention the new ideas flowing through the minds of the HDA staff. Adding weight to a fly can really help you get it down where the fish are, here is a quick tying tip on keeping the Heavy flies separate from the lighter ones. Make it easy, a different color bead might be all you need to separate the lightest flies from the

heaviest ones. Another cool thing to try is just putting the size and color bead of choice to any fly. Just slip it on the leader before you tie your fly on and fish!! This works great for a beaded or non beaded fly. Heck it's a killer technique with streamers for pike, trout, and bass as well.

Youth Fly Fishing Photo contest update: Thanks to all of you that have sent in some pics so far! We are keeping them all in a separate file for a final review, so far so good, great job to the parents and kids. I know once the high water comes down and we get to the summer break we will see some more really great smiling faces with some great fish, remember take a kid fishing.... They LOVE IT!!

Youth Fly Fishing Photo contest update: Thanks to all of you that have sent in some pics so far! We are keeping them all in a separate file for a final review, so far so good, great job to the parents and kids. I know once the high water comes down and we get to the summer break we will see some more really great smiling faces with some great fish, remember take a kid fishing.... They LOVE IT!!



The High Desert Angler, at 888-988-7688
www.highdesertangler.com

To opt out of this e-newsletter, please email us at hda@highdesertangler.com and type "remove" in the subject line.