

[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:

Summer Status: Economy, Weather, Fishing Sales!!

New Hot Items

**Norm's dog days of summer tip
First annual Youth photo contest winner!!!!**



Summer time is when people think fishing, and boy have they!! Thanks to all of you that have helped make this a killer summer for our guide staff and the shop itself. Despite doom and gloom stories in the news about our troubled economy and everything else, it is really refreshing to know people want to get out and enjoy the out of doors. We have seen a lot of the local clientele stay close to home and really get out there to explore and re-explore our local waters. With the rains, even pre/post monsoon- we have seen great hatches, cool water and just down right good fishing since the run-off. I have noticed a real drop in the morning air temps this week. This is making some really good fishing even through the heat of the day, bear in mind, the best fishing in the summer is usually early or late in the day. The season is far from over and I expect a great end to the summer and an exceptional fall throughout Northern New Mexico and Southern Colorado.

Sales! Sales! Sales! I am sure you see it all over town and anywhere you go, but yes, we are also putting stuff on sale and trying to move product to make room for our up and coming 2010 buying season. There will be some cool new products for 2010, and I am sure as fly fishing retailers will do our best to bring in what new stuff we can and what we can afford. With that being said, there are close outs on items that are already slated to be discontinued. Some of these deals might be better than waiting to see the latest and greatest for next year. We have bags, vests, shirts, pants, boots, and even some waders that are ready to be marked down from 20%-40% off. If you're looking for an inexpensive reel, there are a few left and priced to move, especially if you are looking for a nice salt water reel and a reduced price. All of the felt boots in the shop except for the Korkers are priced to move. As most of you know there are several manufacturers pledging to stop producing felt bottom boots. That being said, if you love felt and you are commit-

ted to the clean angling pledge anyway, come get a great pair of boots at a great price, as low as \$80 for some really nice boots. We have a ton of styles and a great size selection as well. These are perfect for a back up, a pair devoted just for use on the San Juan, or a starter pair for a son, daughter, wife, girlfriend, or an extra pair for that guest that didn't want to bring their boots on the plane. Bring your waders in and try on a pair while we still have a plentiful stock.



For the Hot New Item category the buzz is the Streamtread soles on the new Simms boots. I have logged over 40 days in mine so far and I am really happy. The Streamtread seems almost as sticky as the felt in the water, and a heck of a lot better traction just getting to the river. So kudos on that one!! I am particularly fond of the Special edition Susan J. Kohmen Pink rod and reel combo from the Ross World wide line. Once again Ross pulls off a really PINK set up, for a great cause. I have to say the rod casts great too, pink or not, this is a well designed rod at a super affordable price. The new Dry Creek stuff from Simms has been particularly popular with the rain we have had. It helps to keep your stuff dry both as a back pack or a chest pack. For those of you that liked the minimalist approach and like a small chest pack but needed just a

little more room than the San Juan chest pack from Fishpond try their new Arroyo chest pack. This one has just a bit more room, and can attach to a back pack, be worn as a chest pack, or even as a small fanny pack. Small and versatile, this is a nice addition to the Fishpond line up. I'm not going to leave out William Joseph. The new Mag series AMP chest pack has a really cool magnet closure for the main compartment, making it my new favorite item so far. The Compartment stays closed well keeping your fly box where it needs to be, and with a slight but solid pull it easily opens with out the need to zip or un zip a pocket. Come check these new products out, and see some others as well.

Norm's Dog Days of Summer tip:

This time of year can be a tricky! Low and clear water, combined with thunderstorms that muddy up the stream for a period during the day, can create frustrating scenarios. But don't fret, there is still good fishing during these situations.

With low and clear water, presentation is going to take precedence when it comes to getting fish to eat. Typically in most northern New Mexico streams this may mean extending your cast or lengthening your leader and down sizing your tippet. With longer cast you must make sure that your excess line on the water is well managed or drag created from the streams multiple currents will destroy your presentation. Stripping and or mending will help considerably with longer line on the water. Longer leaders will create a similar effect without you having to make too long of a cast. I will say that these techniques and set ups are great if you know how to mend efficiently and know how to get a 9ft + leader to turn over.

One basic rule I have when it comes to fishing is keep it simple!! How you can keep it simple is by just relocating to a different type of water in that area. Don't look to the pools where fish can spot you a mile away, but attempt to fish the faster, choppier water at the head of the pool or in between pools. Hit the pockets of calm water created by the boulders that obstruct the faster currents. These pock-



ets create great holding water, with high oxygen levels and constant food delivery. Plus the choppy water helps to hide you, allowing you to get in close to those otherwise spooky fish. Typically when a trout is holding in this type of water that fish is feeding without care! They will eat your fly on the first or second cast, but be sure to throw in a couple extra cast to be sure that your fly and fish find each other, then move on to the next one. Delicate and precise presentations don't exist here, keep your casts short (1 rod length) and hit the center of the pocket, doesn't matter if your fly splashes in, that may even highlight your flies and cause the fish to strike. Dry dropper rigs work great in this scenario.

Now, the thunderstorms do tend muck things up, literally. That doesn't mean the fishing is done. Stick it out, usually the muddy water will only last as long as the cloudburst that sent you running into the

trees for cover. During the muddy period change your set up a little. If you running a nymph rig or dry dropper, run heavier tippet, 4x or 3x, and tie on a bigger nymph. A fly with rubber legs, a little more flash, or brighter color, and /or thicker body will be noticed by a feeding fish. They continue to feed in these conditions, it's a natural response as they need to eat, or die trying to wait out the mud. The trick is move out of the fast pocket water and back in to the pools and cover the water thoroughly, working the slowest portions of that pool or run giving your fly maximum exposure to those fish. Basically, that fly has got to hit 'em in the mouth! Granted, this kind of fishing is not the most pleasant, but during those trips where you saved time-off to go somewhere to fish and come to find the river is muddy or off color, all is not lost, give it a go or fish another river if there is one close by! As the water clears I find this to be some of the best fishing to be had. Enjoy the cooler weather these storms have delivered and go wet a line!!

We Have a Winner!!!! With great honor and pleasure we are proud to announce our first annual youth photo contest winner Henry Kuchta!!! Henry lives up north of Questa with his little brother Joaquin, Dad Chuck and Mother Kathy. Chuck and their family friend Steve Hoxie have been hard at work teaching Henry the fine art of fly fishing and catch and release. They fish some area ponds and lakes. But really love to the Costilla, Latir Creek, Red River, Rio Grande, and the Culebra in Southern Colorado. Henry's photo won him a Ross World Wide 476-4 Journey built just for kids!! Great job Henry, now that we know you can out fish Steve and your Dad you are

an honorary HDA Field Staff member as well!!!



Way to go, Henry!!!!



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.