



# HENRY'S LAKE FOUNDATION

Printed by J&D, Castletford, Idaho (208) 537-6688 or 1-800-669-8076

Spring 1993

*Notice to All Readers from Fred Grimes, Newsletter Coordinator.*

*From time to time we may have articles of a controversial nature in this newsletter. It will be our policy not to censor or edit the content of the articles without the consent of the authors. However, the opinions and statements made are those of the authors and are not necessarily the views and opinions of the Henry's Lake Foundation and its Board of Directors.*

## President's Message

As I set here writing this, the first day of spring is about a week away and we still have over a foot of snow on the ground. So, it looks like we will have some water this year. Snow pack has been pretty good this winter, much better than the last few years. Whether Henry's Lake will fill this year remains to be seen. I certainly hope it does.

Dissolved oxygen levels in Henry's Lake have dropped pretty significantly this winter, but there has not been any indication of a fish kill yet. Hope we can avoid one this year. Fish and Game has all of the aerators running so this will help a lot.

Before we know it summer will be here and we will be fishing the lake. Our annual membership meeting will be held July 3, a Saturday, at Wild Rose Ranch. We will have a board of directors meeting the evening of July 2 at Staley Springs Lodge. Saturday's activities will begin at 11:00 a.m. with the silent auction. Hopefully, Bob and Marge Roseberry and friends will agree to head this up. They have done such a great job in the past. Jim Wood is soliciting donations from companies and corporations again this year. If you have items you would like to donate you can send them to Doug Siepert, 2955 West 5200 South, Rexburg, Idaho 83440.

Mary Ann has the meal lined up. Serving will start at 12:30. The Foundation will provide the meat dish, rolls, beverage and dessert. Please bring a salad type dish. The Foundation will provide the dishes and utensils.

After the meal we will have some short talks from representatives of the agencies associated with the lake. We should have some facts to present to you concerning the water quality studies being done. After the talks the auction will conclude and the meeting will be adjourned. Any unfinished board of director business will be finished up at this time.

If you have any questions, comments, or issues that you would like to have addressed, please bring them to the meeting. If you are unable to attend send them in writing to me.

Anyone who would like to serve as an officer of the Foundation is welcome to submit your name to me. We are always looking for new people with new ideas, so don't be afraid to let one of us know.

The Foundation is in the process of buying two hand held radios for the Idaho Fish and Game Department to use in enforcement duties on the lake. This will allow them to be more efficient as well as add a safety factor to their efforts. On a related note, please read the "Summary of 1992 Henry's Lake Enforcement Effort". This shows that Henry's Lake has one of the highest enforcement efforts of any lake in Idaho.

In the last newsletter, I neglected to mention that Tom McQuire and Bob Roseberry had stepped down from their positions on the board of directors. I would like to thank them for the time, effort, and input that they have contributed to the Henry's Lake Foundation.

*See you on the lake, Doug Siepert*

## Summary of '93 Henry's Lake Enforcement Effort

Officer	Activity	No. Days	Man Hrs
Region Personnel	Season Opener	2 (20)	160
Penske (w/asst.)	Regular Patrol	15 (22)	58
Curry and others	Covert Patrol	8 (16)	128
Herron	Uniform Patrol	40 (40)	160
	Plainclothes	20 (20)	40
Gamblin	Uniform Patrol	10 (10)	40
	<b>Total =</b>		<b>586</b>

I have not included the total number of days and hours of the creel survey as enforcement time because only a portion of that time was by Tom or myself (uniformed officer time). However, there was a total of fifty-eight (58) creel survey days with a minimum of three counts per day on the lake (174 hours on the lake). The presence of the marked IDFG boat around and across the lake three times a day, interviewing anglers and checking fishing licenses does constitute a Department presence and does have enforcement deterrent value. The boat did have radio contact with shore (either the hatchery, Bruce or any other officer in radio range) to allow better response to emergency and enforcement situations.

*Mark Gamblin*

## Idaho Department of Fish and Game Hatchery Up-Date

It's been an interesting winter on Henry's Lake this year! It's been a winter of extremes. Brook trout spawning was extremely successful with egg quotas met in three days of trapping in October and 40,000 surplus eggs for fry plants this spring. The lake was extremely low this fall necessitating dredging of Targhee Creek by the Henry's Lake Foundation and hatchery staff to accommodate natural spawning brook trout. This effort was quite successful with many brook trout noted above the beaver dams breached by the hatchery staff.

Snow fall was extremely heavy (or at least it seemed that way after so many years of drought). Early in January we were at 104 per cent of our snow pack for the year. Unfortunately in recent weeks we have slipped behind that percentage. There is still plenty of moisture in the mountains to effect a near full pool in Henry's Lake by next September barring another record draw-down.

This leads us to winter oxygen levels in Henry's Lake; another extreme. Oxygen depletion is occurring at a higher rate this year than last prompting hatchery staff to install aeration devices around the lake in January and February. The hatchery also installed four lines from the helixing blowers in early March. There is still survivable habitat in the lake at the time of this writing and there have been no visible signs of a fish kill at this time. This is not to say that it won't happen this year or that it will happen. We are only saying that oxygen depletion is occurring at a higher rate than last year and with half the water volume it follows that there is less oxygen to deplete.

The spawning run has been lower than other years thus far. Three hundred and seventy-four cutthroat have been spawned to produce 932,685 green hybrid eggs as of March 13th. This will more than cover the 250,000 hybrids slated to be planted next September. Cutthroat spawning will begin on the 15th of March. To date, 1171 cutthroat males and 407 cutthroat females have ascended the fish ladder along with 167 hybrid males and 84 hybrid females. Spawning will continue until no more fish are available or until May 15th.

Projects slated for the upcoming season include an attempt at a population estimate on the lake by hatchery staff using gill nets and a purse seine. Installation of the lake helixers will likely take place in August. Riparian fencing will depend upon the money available but could include Kelly and Gillan spring and pending an agreement, Little Targhee Creek. There is discussion of radio tagging fish next fall and winter to evaluate habitat use on the lake but the effectiveness of this depends upon the availability of a Global Positioning System for the Hatchery.

I would like to thank the Foundation in advance for the purchase of radios for the hatchery to use on the lake. This will

increase the effectiveness of the hatchery's role in enforcement on the lake and increase efficiency of projects around the lake.

I would also like to take this opportunity to introduce John Miller, who will be working as the Biologists-Aide on the lake this summer. John is a very capable individual who understands fishing and fisheries science and the difference between them.

I would also like to take a moment to condemn the type of false reporting that we saw in "The Hunting and Fishing News" March 4-18 edition. An article titled "Winter Kill Takes Toll at Henry's", is a prime example of JUNK TABLOID journalism that doesn't deserve distribution. The article has nothing factual in it and statements about nutrients and their sources are unfounded, malicious and based on nothing even closely related to science.

Tom Herron,  
Hatchery Manager

## Unknown Pattern



### Materials:

Hook - mustad 96710 or equivalent - size 6, 8, 10  
 Body - peacock herl  
 Ribbing - red or copper wire  
 Wing and tail - light olive green marabou tied matuka style over back 2/3 of hook shank; Light brown to light red brown marabou tied matuka style over front 1/3 of hook shank.  
 Head - black or brown monochord

I wish I could give credit by naming the fly, the author of the fly or even the individual who gave me the pattern several years ago. Although I do not include this fly in my "must patterns" for Henry's Lake ("musts" are reserved for such greats as The Henry's Lake Renegade, Beaver Tan Leach, Canadian Red and Brown Leaches and Damsel patterns) I wouldn't want to forget to have several with me. I usually get around to fishing this pattern when the "must" patterns won't work. Even during slow times I have had at least some success fishing this pattern each of the last several years whereas several other patterns in my book seem to have been hot for a season or two then for whatever reason faded into memories. I like to fish this pattern with a fast erratic retrieve, but like most other patterns, slow sometimes works better.

Jim Wood

**Creel Census Records For Henrys Lake**

Year	Effort (hours)	Fish Harvested	Catch Rate (fish/hr)		Percent		Catch Composition (%)	
			Harvest	Total	Released	Ct	Hybrid	Brook
1950	17,008	12,246	.72	.82	12	77	-	23
1951	27,947	12,302	.44	.50	12	80	-	20
1971	102,233	36,720	.36	.36	0	70	14	16
1972	83,800	27,027	.32	.32	0	69	19	12
1975	86,304	29,914	.35	.38	10	89	-	11
1976	68,109	18,650	.27	.54	49	81	.1	19
1977	66,139	16,466	.25	.44	44	71	.4	29
1978	85,304	25,510	.30	.48	37	48	20	33
1979	93,921	18,728	.20	.32	37	35	42	24
1980	68,446	9,262	.14	.21	37	31	59	10
1981	65,918	7,471	.11	.21	47	30	54	16
1982	63,273	7,071	.11	.45	75	62	25	13
1983	95,996	25,447	.23	1.23	81	84	9	7
1984	162,878	47,017	.29	1.70	83	92	5	3
1985	125,666	37,921	.30	1.28	76	92	4	4
1986	172,772	67,681	.39	.87	55	85	14	1
1987	150,234	35,712	.24	.54	56	60	34	6
1988	100,479	19,503	.20	.82	76	49	39	12
1989	339,986	103,736	.31	.77	60	50	45	5
1990	344,245	63,139	.18	.51	64	53	41	5
1991	147,023	18,844	.13	.34	63	49	49	2
1992	115,526	12,192	.11	.45	72	38	52	10

Note: All fish under "catch composition (%)" column are in angler possession and checked during IDFG creel surveys.

**Mean Size Harvest/Sport Fishery**

Year	Cutthroat				Hybrid		Brook	
	Mean Size (mm)		No. >20"	Total Harvest	Mean Size	% Over 20"	Mean Size	% >18"
	Harvest	% >20"			Harvest		Harvest	
1979	452	10.8	701		456	7.7	378	6.1
1980	429	10.9	317		459	16.0	391	4.8
1981	445	13.2	298		450	11.3	389	19.2
1982	416	6.9	300		451	17.2	405	25.4
1983	388	2.5	534		448	13.7	392	17.3
1984	388	0.5	214		427	5.4	393	30
1985	378	0	0	34,888	416	0	364	0
1986	407	0	0	57,274	441	5	364	0
1987	436	5	1,071	21,427	447	26	371	3
1988	430	8	765	9,556	432	17	383	20
1989	404	4	2,241	56,017	435	11	387	10
1990	427	2	669	33,464	461	24	433	0
1991	460	21	67	7,902	473	35	369	20
1992	452	27	21	3,722	474	42	417	22



## News from the Lake

Most of the folks who read this newsletter can only close their eyes and imagine what the lake looks like this time of year. We year round "Henry's Lakers" realize how fortunate we are to live in such a special, beautiful place - even now, in mid-March, when winter can begin to seem far too long.

From the window of my home office, I see two moose munching on the willows near the north shore. Later today, they'll come up the hill, cross the road, and wander between my house and my neighbor's - Hal Menugh, and then go behind our houses and rest in the willows near the spring. They may try to have a late day snack of exotic evergreens another neighbor has trimmed his property with, but they have stripped nearly all of the branches bare, so will have quite a stretch to satisfy themselves.

The red-winged blackbirds are back, and there have been more Oregon juncos than usual at the birdfeeder. A few days ago, a great horned owl was hit by a vehicle in front of my house, and one of the neighbors took it to the game warden. We hope it wasn't one of the owls that nests every year in a coulee behind this subdivision.

Over the top of the hill, we have seen bald eagles performing their mating displays. Down the road, toward U.S. 20, the Henry's Lake community has enjoyed good views of moose, deer and elk where they are being fed (program funded by the IP Sportsmen's Association) across the road from the Salisbury ranch. And, it is always pleasant to go over to the hatchery and look for fish in the open water. In the early morning, bald eagles, moose, and deer can be spotted in this lovely area.

Many people in this little community are retired, or work less than usual in the winter. So, we have time to chat with one another down by the mailboxes, at the store, or over the phone. Quite a few people from the lake area and all around Island Park have raised a number of concerns relative to the lake, and discussed them in detail with me because I publish the *Yellowstone Gateway Post*, and some of these concerns should be made public.

A major concern is what will happen to the Sherwood Museum building and property. This motivated several Island Park residents to start the nonprofit Island Park Historical Society, and the Island Park Historical Commission. As many of you know, the entire contents of the museum were taken away around a year ago. The artifacts and photographs are at the Idaho Historical Commission in Boise, and the taxidermy is at the Museum of Natural History in Pocatello. However, all or part of these collections would be returned to Island Park if there were a suitable facility to house them.

Presently, Mary McBroom, the IPHS president, and her committee are researching how to raise money to purchase the property and renovate the building. Tom Herron at the hatchery is also looking into raising money to purchase the property. The Sherwood property bordering the lake is valuable riparian habitat, and should not be developed.

Anyone with any ideas on acquiring funds for this property should contact Mary McBroom 558-7498 or Tom Herron, HC 66 Box 150, Island Park, ID, 83429, 558-7202.

Another concern is with the hatchery itself. The Army Corps of Engineers Idaho office is proposing to replace the parking

lot with a pond - there was once a manmade pond there. They would then close the hatchery to the public. Although the return of developed land to wetland is a worthy goal, it would be a bad idea in this case, people around here say. The hatchery shouldn't be closed to the public. It is a valuable educational facility. The parking lot is absolutely necessary - there is no other place in this area to park, and people would park on the road, creating safety hazards. If you want to comment on this contact Tom Herron, or let someone you know in the Corps know your concerns.

The Idaho Fish and Game Department has started an Adopt A Wetland program. Groups can "adopt" a wetland and maintain goose and wood duck platforms and houses, clean up litter, plant vegetation, etc. Some financial contributions to some projects by the adopting group are required. We think it is a wonderful idea, and Tom Herron has a few projects in mind for wetlands near the lake. To learn more about the program, contact Tom.

The economy and future development are two other great concerns. People who earn their living from tourism in the lake area are disgusted with articles in the media, especially the March 4-18 edition of *Fishing and Hunting News*, that inaccurately reported on winter kill. Another concern is that the irrigators will remove too much water again this year, and so boats will not be able to be launched after mid-summer.

You don't have to be an environmentalist to question the wisdom of developing any more land around the lake. The wintering habitat for ungulates is already marginal. The sewer and water problems are well known. Wild habitat near the lake is minimal. In short, the ecosystem here is stressed. And so there is great concern with rumors that Staley Springs and Wild Rose resorts are for sale, since most new owners expand operations. There is concern about the Lou Webster subdivision approved near the outlet, and with other development proposals, including a grocery store and R.V. park on the Flat, and a condo resort and private airport on the Targhee Ranch.

Island Park now has planning and zoning regulations for city and country land, and these will help control development that could damage resources. However, they need to be enforced, and there is great concern that the county commission and the city council will not enforce the laws without a great deal of pressure. The grocery store-R.V. park development on the Flat is an example. The developer was turned down by the county because the land is in a sensitive wetland area. So he "decided" his property was in the city and produced a map proving it was. The city hadn't adopted the P&Z law yet, so it approved the development. Concerned locals threatened to sue the county for allowing this to happen. So, lawyers looked at several maps and decided the property is in the county, not the city. But then the county gave permission for the development! The decision is being challenged, but is expected to be upheld. If this sets a precedent, look out!

We are all excited about the Mountain Man Rendezvous to be held at Henry's Lake State Park June 11-13. The staff at Harriman is working with the rendezvous-ers to organize this event, which for years was held in the valley and draws a lot of visitors.

Finally, we are pleased that the extensive dump that was "uncovered" on the south shore of the lake last fall, on BLM and Staley Spring Resort property, when water levels dropped, will

be cleaned up this May. Volunteers are needed - contact the BLM if you can help.

We have been publishing the *Post* since January, 1992, covering the Island Park-West Yellowstone-west of Yellowstone Park area. Tom Herron writes a regular column for the *Post* on Henry's Lake issues, which has generated more interest in the lake and helped inform people about important concerns. For a free copy, or to chat about any of the above concerns, contact Elizabeth Bengtson, *Yellowstone Gateway Post*, HC 66 Box 67A, Island Park, ID 83429, 208-558-7141.

*Elizabeth Bengtson*

### Marv's Little Olive Leech

Let me tell you about a good fly pattern that has during the last three seasons caught several hundred trout. The fly works great on Henry's Lake. It also has been found to be very effective on other lakes in the Yellowstone area. It's a killer fly on the big rainbows on the Blackfoot Indian Reservation. (Cutbank, MT)

We were introduced to the fly during the summer of July 1990 by the well-known outdoorsman, writer and fisherman, Marv Taylor from Boise, Idaho.

We camped next to Marv and his bride, Vina, at Shady Grove Campground, Cutbank, Montana. I had met Mr. Taylor a few years back and saw him fishing Henry's Lake and other lakes in the area. Our friend, Bill Ackers, told us that Mr. Taylor was a good fisherman and catches lots of fish. He had good fly patterns that we should take a look at. I'm always interested in anything new, especially a new fly pattern that catches lots of fish, or a bird dog that points lots of birds. That year, Marv was slaying the big fish at Henry's, catching thirty to forty fish during a short day. This same year when we arrived at Cutbank to fish the famous Mission and Kipp Lakes, Marv and his fishing friends had already been fishing for a few days. After each day of fishing, we always got together (wine time) to discuss and compare the results of the day. Marv was just catching the "Hatties" out of the big Rainbows. ( 6 to 10 lbs)

I knew I had to see his fly and get one so I could tie some of them. The very next day, I saw Marv Taylor during a four hour period, catch and release eight to ten fish twenty-three to twenty-seven inches and numerous other fish sixteen, eighteen, twenty inches. I got a really good lesson, John O'Neill would call it "paying your dues", or a lesson Bill Hayes gives to all fishermen, young and old at the "Glory Hole" at Henry's Lake.

That evening I went to Marv on my hands and knees, begging for a peek at his fly. He was helpful, professional and not only gave me one of his flies, but gave me some of his material. He gave me a fly tying lesson that I shall never forget.

During the last three seasons, our regular fishing partners and friends have used the Marv's fly, as we call it. Its real name

is "Marv's Little Olive Leech", and other variations of our own creation, to catch several hundred trout. Our lady fishing partners were catching and releasing fifty to seventy-five fish. Some would say that this number of fish is suspect of being a big fish tale. Numbers may be authenticated by our friends Bill and Pat Pothier.

All kidding aside, this fly pattern catches lots of fish. Everyone should have at least a few of "Marv's Little Olive Leech" in his fly box.

Mr. Taylor markets his creation. If you have problems finding the material to make the fly, more information can be obtained from him at: 217 Silver City Dr., Boise, ID 83704. If you don't understand my instructions or need assistance, come by Staley Springs, Space 28, we will be there for the summer. See you there.

#### "Marv's Little Olive Leech"

Hook: 10 or 12, 2 X long. Sproat hooks work good. They are stronger, don't pull out or bend on the big ones.

Tails: Marabou, length of the shank in various olive colors to match the body. We think the success of this fly is largely due to the tail action. If the tail is short, the fish don't take it as well. The tail should be naturalistic, and any way, you can always shorten it, but you can't put it back on.

Body: Chenille, small 0 size, variegated olive and gold. This chenille is normally hard to find. Most fly shops in Yellowstone area have some variations. If you can't find small size, you can trim the chenille down with a pair of scissors. This fly made thin, in our opinion, works better than if it is bulky.

Thread: Olive color. We try to match the olive hackle as closely as possible.

Hackle: Shade of olive that matches the marabou. The olive color over the body material gives the fly a unique glint. Marv Taylor uses grizzly hackle, dyed with rit dye #42.

Step 1: Attach the olive thread to the hook, using your style or method.

Step 2: Tie on an olive hackle feather, select a size that will make 4 full turns over the body.

Step 3: Tie on marabou tail. Ensure the marabou is at least as long as the shank of the hook.

Step 4: Tie on the chenille.

Step 5: Wrap the chenille very tightly on the hook shank.

Thin is in on this fly.

Step 6: Palmer the hackle over the chenille, 4 turns, and make a head. Tie off.

Step 7: Trim/clip hackle short all around the shank.

*Mike Brickner*



Non-Profit Organ.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Boise, Id 83706  
Permit No. 689

c/o Richard Prange  
2320 Independence Dr.  
Boise, Idaho 83706

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

## NEWSLETTER

**President:** Doug Siepert, 2955 West 5200 South, Rexburg, ID 83440  
**Newsletter Coordinator:** Fred Grimes, P.O. Box 223, Lebanon, MO 65536  
**Secretary-Treasurer:** Polly Holbrook, 15200 Northwest Burlington Court, Portland, OR 97231  
(send all membership dues/donations to Secretary-Treasurer)-

The Henrys Lake Foundation invites you to join and support our non-profit, tax exempt corporation formed to preserve, protect, and enhance the great trout fishery of Henrys Lake. Just fill in the information below and send your tax deductible contribution or membership dues to:

**Henrys Lake Foundation**  
c/o Secretary-Treasurer  
Polly Holbrook  
15200 Northwest Burlington Court  
Portland, OR 97231

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 annual membership dues

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 life membership (deposited in a trust/interest bearing account)

\_\_\_\_\_ Existing member, and my contribution is an additional donation