

## **messell-gregg-2016-01-22.mp4**

[00:00:10] I'm. I'm an ambassador and letting you know I'm an ambassador. There are people who don't fish. There are people that don't fly fish and I have some guys but I'm not. My favorite story was just last spring. A friend of mine came up from Atlanta Georgia which is and he just took up fly fishing. So he is he and his wife and daughter came up the year before him and we fished and time flies and stuff. I brought him up so I could fish winning. We went fishing and we went to a place called Ruby habitat which is down near Sheridan between Sheridan and older and here in Montana. It wasn't just a. I mean we caught a lot of fish. We saw Moose. We went and watched saw bald eagles. We went to a bald eagle nest. We on turkeys we saw pheasants. We saw white tails we saw beavers. And for him it wasn't just a fish. And it isn't just the fish. I hear him say what you want about what we do. But it's not all about the fishing it's about the the whole experience taking time to smell the roses and those of us have lived here and been coming out here for 40 years hopefully we've taken the time to do that. I'm always amazed and it's one of the things that fascinates me. I'll be over on the Missouri and there'll be a guy in a drift boat on a cell phone. I mean that to me is not the essence of what he did. And I leave my cell phone in the truck you know. And part of it is just taking time to look around. You don't know what you'll see whether it's a big horn sheep whether it's a moose whatever. And that to me is what this this thing we call fishing is all about it's not just catching a fish. It's being in an environment where they go in where they're at.

[00:01:46] I think that's one of the great things about trout in general is that they're selective in their habitat and because of that because of where they live it provides that that Beaver and moose and white tail and newly and elk and everything else are there as well.

[00:01:59] And even all the birds of prey. Sure. Oh yeah. Yes it's amazing. You know and I didn't you know I can say I didn't get into birding when I lived in the UK. The birds are all different. So the first thing we did was get a bird book because they will have the same birds. You know when we moved to Montana coming from the Midwest the second thing we bought was a bird book because I mean we get birds at our feeders and you know you know we're number one I wonder what it is. And that and that may be part of what fishing is all about. You know there's so many facets. You know there's a new set of entomology right. Bugs. And you know it is a big bang it's a little bug isn't it isn't you know what kind of bug is it. I mean there is so much interest you know and and over the years you know it's stream habitat you know in Missouri we worked on some wild trout streams to improve them here. We've had the advantage we had some very enlightened Fish Fishery biologists incumbent Dick Vinson you know don't stock fish. Give me a section where we're not going to start fish we can have wild fish. I mean coming after 40 years. Right. I've seen the changes over 40 years and I think fishing is as good as it was when I came out here. Even better than it was when I was here 40 years ago. There are wild fish. So but I mean tackles changed techniques have changed but I think the fishing has gotten better. I know in part of it is I don't think we can divide. You know it's partisan the division anymore. There's a there was a book that came out the totally synthetic fish and talks about how we've ruined most of our cutthroat stocks in the West because we introduced rainbows and a cross fertilization. So. Wild fish and wild fish natives yes. Can we do some things Cherry Creek. You know Ted Turner's attempt even though it isn't 100 percent successful we tried right. I think there are places OK and you could take some streams and make them true namely forget the cutthroat population pack.

[00:04:03] You have to fix the stream you have to do habitat stuff. You have to have regulations and you have to make sure that we're not going to wring more bucket biology. So maybe it's you know hey I'm going to stick some brushes in here. And and that's what's happened to.

[00:04:19] I mean if you think about Yellowstone Park there were you know there were cutthroats everywhere there were cutthroats in Yellowstone fire okay. There weren't trout in the firehose. You know there was lots of things we did. And you know again and that's part of my fascination with fly fishing. You read about the guys that started the brought the brown trout over you know Seth Green and the hatcheries in the West chemistry Ernie's case because we destroyed the brook trout habitat.

[00:04:43] It's you know it's all part of it. And we're trying to improve it did we.

[00:04:49] That's that's an argument that is going to go on for years and years and years. I love catching Westland cutthroats. And I love catching the occasional bull trap and I'm not targeting him because you can't let everyone's Well I know some streams where they still live and I still enjoy it. And again the discussion with Badlands that you know you're talking of your discussion how do we get your catch release right. I mean that was 60 years ago. That was wild. You know what. We didn't do it when we were talking about. How do we take fish and not in a matter of law. How do we essentially wild fish or native fish. Take your pictures in an ad or take your pictures in the water.

[00:05:26] Don't lift them out.

[00:05:28] I have some no part of it is they've done it in other states. You talked about Washington morning and if it's a wild steelhead or a wild wild chinook you take the hook out you do not live that fish out waters against the regs. Well can we not do some of the same stuff here. So yeah and then that's going to be a fight. And I you know I get in trouble on blogs all the time when I I and I see a fish like a very large cut throat that came out of the Yellowstone River. And Yellowstone cut through the guy's got him on the bank taking pictures no one was an endangered species but I'll speak up. That's that's what I do. Sure yeah. Well then I think I and I think that's the other thing. You know you keep on looking at the next question.

[00:06:11] Go ahead finish that train of thought. You talk about t you an F F F and all the organizations.

[00:06:18] How do we fight you know not so much fight but how do we educate so how do we educate the youth you know and catch your feelings if we don't do the right education. How do people know how to handle a fish again in talking about William Steinman even look at some of the fish you get and they get fungus and everything else even though it's cancer release we are going to kill 3 and 5 percent of those fish.

[00:06:39] It's just just mortality it does happen. So but it's better funded. They don't have a chance when you've got a monster that is tied up.

[00:06:54] Five years or I'm remember the first time you came in the house and I showed you the Quantas centennial edition of The Complete angler. It's all about history. I mean I've had the opportunity to fish in the east and visit I've fished in England. I went visit in all the places that Isaac Walton lived and fished.

[00:07:11] It is about history and that's part of the sport. You know it is all encompassing you know. I tie flies. I read books I build rods I you know and I participate in stuff like this because there is a passion and it's it's what's fly fishing should be all about it's not just catching fish. I can sit in and enjoy a great article or a great book on fly fishing. There are some great storytellers. Dana lamb you can go. There's a bunch of Dana Lamb's one of my favorites. I call it. He writes very short stories but they capture the essence of fiction. But I think mink collecting it.

[00:07:50] Having it available and making it available to researchers because I'm you know somewhere down the road and someone's going to want to write and free HD on all of the books ever written about fishing or fly fishing right or even just fishing you know. And how many books do we now have in the collection over eleven thousand eleven thousand books in the collection. And I. And part of it is you also have some papers you have all the wild trout studies you have some of the stream habitat stuff and it's not just about fishing. It's about the whole thing whether it's you know it's not just about trout fishing or so there's some fine fishing books or some I've read some books from the U.K. you know so. It is a broad spectrum. And I think it's important to maintain that and make it available.

[00:08:35] I mean anybody can come up to the special collections after they make an appointment and and do research and I and I am part of it is there's so much out there is just like when I gave you the Gary house pictures they are a snapshot in history. And he was it I mean he faced all over the world. He fished in Argentina he fished in Canada that he fished a lot on Henry's Lake and he was a he was he was a guy first and Rambler second. And I think that makes a difference Anderson.

[00:09:08] And I told Tom Morgan from Winston Ron's young talent Glen Bracken from whence. He's also a fisheries biologist and a guy he and a road. The great ones had a passion the great Ron donors and even some of the guys on the East Coast that the guys that I know now are fishermen first around understanding the great ones they really know you know they understand they understand the essence.

[00:09:35] So to maintain what you have in the collection to make it available for future generations and that's what this is all about making it available and I think it's very important for me. But maybe it's because I'm more of my wife and I'm more historians than we are innovation. But you know we always look at it from a bigger picture standpoint.

[00:10:04] wrote eleven books. Right. But his final book was fishing's only part of it. I think he knew he was dying right. He talked about the experience the friends the places and the people. Dana lamb you know I reread him. I get into a mood and and his books aren't long there one hundred and twenty five pages maybe you know maybe 10 12 short stories but he captures what we all think about then her lament out of Portland Oregon.

[00:10:37] It was a newspaper writer coming upon finishing a set if you want something that was shocking. This was written in the thirties. But what we did is to screw up fishing on the West Coast. But he also wrote a thing called a leaf from French Larry which is sort of a bunch of short stories. Those again if you said if you could read you know and I liked John Garrick crazy but he he's.

[00:11:04] He talks about Jimmy and Joe Fish and stories like Ed angle or going where they came back the guys he tours with and that's and that's wonderful and I enjoy that. But

maybe he's not as philosophical as a Daniel lamb but that if you ask me if I if I get stuck on a desert island give me my Dana lamb collection and I couldn't survive.

[00:11:32] I'm going to give you two OK. OK. One I'm in the Boulder river current Well it's 20 miles from the house. It's full of trout. It's convenient.

[00:11:43] And I never see anybody fishing. And but clearly showed it to me. So it has a very special is a variable. And one of my favorite Bud Lily stories and I actually wrote about the Boulder for an upcoming book that's coming out next year. We're fishing and boat can't see anymore. Right. So he fishes like seriously three and you'll hear him. He'll be walking behind you. And you want it you pay attention to it isn't a bank. You don't want him. But he goes Oh that's a nice fish. All he hears is a splash. So this has been two or three years ago and he says and you know what time it is and it was I looked at my watch and I said must be lunchtime you're ready for sandwiches now it's Hopper time. And so and but it's not just Hopper time. He tells you one size Harper where you know. And so we went to another hole and the first cast. And he says make sure it's about an inch long because it's July. They're not that big yet. First cast bang. Sixteen inch brown trout. Right. And he's he's as happy as I am. Right. And I caught two more fish and we had a sandwich but half the time the other one is a Ruby River. I have real passion for that in that we've tried to change it some. Right. We have some great regulations on it. I know there's a whole lot of private water there is opportunities above the dam but you can fish it year round. There are places there is access but one of the reasons that we're trying to reintroduce Grayling right and this is absolutely my logging in 2003 that was they need a mass planting.

[00:13:11] The good news is is there are some holdovers. It was somewhat successful. So I have a rates above the reservoir. So you know it's for a little more pristine and I say that and I'm still scared because now we're building with mansions on the banks of the Ruby reservoir. I thought that was BLM land and I didn't know was could be held in private but. I don't want to get into the politics of the room because we could talk about all the stuff that goes on and what's in the Supreme Court right now. But the rumor has it is a special place for me it's close it holds a lot of fish and I do enjoy the Ruby.

[00:13:52] I'm just saying my father OK and my father I had two passions fishing and motor racing OK. He got me into both. I said I started fishing as soon as I got all the bamboo rod came full.

[00:14:06] I'm from the Midwest. We can't blue gill and cropping and guess what. We whacked him over the head and we ate him then that's fine. But he's also the one to buy me my first fly rod and so you know I learned to fly fish. And so that was the end and racing I started out to go karts when I was eleven right and moved out. I was in Cornum before I get a driver's license and reason quarter midgets and half midgets right in the Midwest. I mean there's a race every Saturday night. And so but I wasn't the athlete my brother was when it came to like baseball and football. I may have played basketball and was OK. My brother was all everything right. I was adequate but it didn't get me to college but our passion for fishing and my mom said you know I've read sufficiently and I'm still that way I don't give it wrong I like a good steak and then I still love to fish and but I don't have that I don't have the need to fish long hours and I mean when I was a kid my mom dropped me off and come back and pick me up. Right.

[00:15:08] Five or six hours later and I went ready to leave then now and I I tend to know when I'm done an exact nature that's interesting now. Maybe it's because their last fish I

can't use 16 or 18 inches and then I go that's good. That's a nice that's a nice way to end a trip rather than.

[00:15:30] Can I get one more as like I'm delaying the trip on that because that's the fish is going to stand in me and my memory. And I'm good with that. Whether it's two hours or three hours of fishing you know it's like that's good fishing in the day on.

[00:15:48] What if it wasn't a Trump speaks. That's OK. One of those Grayling That's fine. I mean they're part of that. They're part of the South now my family. I am fascinated you know when I was in the UK they considered of course fish because they spawn in the. Spring rather than the farmers fall rather spread forget what is it. I love that because the streams are just full of them over there and you could catch them here and there's a couple of places red rock. You know there are some very large very long. There are 16 18 inch green which is in it's fairly pristine. But if you if you ask me a trout it's still on West Slope Katherine it is it is a beautiful fish. The problem is it's actually identifying it OK and you know if you think about it they now have in Idaho the slam it's a West Slope. Fine spot in Yellowstone and there's one more that fits in there is in Idaho.

[00:16:44] It is like there aren't 200 people in the world identifying that and if they haven't hybridized. I mean I don't worry that there's that many wild speaking in Yellowstone park Yellowstone River. If you really are on Lamar river you know that if he if that's you know I know those fish but you can tell by the spot but you get you get out in those areas and I'm not sure you can tell them. And there's an awful lot of those out there. Oh yeah. Yes. You lose you lose someone and it angers Mac Taylors and totally synthetic fish. Yeah yeah. And that was to me was you know when I read that book and I wanted to emphasize that McCloud River Rainbows was the species that they used to transport and transplant all over the U.S. in the 1980s the most pure self-sustaining population of the McCloud River rainbow is in Missouri. I'm Crane Creek. They were stock there once in 1880.

[00:17:46] That was held in the headwaters the springs and then about four miles of streams was held by a private family and it's still held by a private family so that it was never restocked again. So the purest beginning strain of collaborate with rainbows and Crane Creek in Missouri.

[00:18:02] You know you think about wow it's a while you know. Yeah. Cutthroat. Yeah yeah.

[00:18:09] You know and I know that that is I know California has come out to get golden trout from Montana lakes because our species are more pure as the ones that are stock here even though they're not native. Yeah than the ones currently in California.

[00:18:22] And that's you know the golden is really as a cutthroat. It's just. Yeah yeah. They're just part of it is where they come from. Yeah. So yeah I guess I get cutthroat let's love W1 Katherine's. Fair enough. Yeah.

[00:18:41] We've got American rivers and they're not totally a trout and salmon. You've got Western Rivers Conservancy. You know they are more working on the rivers were in the trout and salmon live.

[00:18:51] Once our biggest challenge getting people interested when I go to Club meetings there's not a youth movement. You know there's all that I hate to say it. It's all guys like me and we're. Of course we have the money and the time and the passion. How

do we reinstall that. I do a fine time show in Idaho Falls every spring and we get 400 kids to attend. That's a start. But how do you get them for life and how do you get them to where they're going to serve. You're not just. Being part of the club but serve. Be on the conservation committee beyond you know me on the board get involved legislatively and then it's a challenge.

[00:19:30] I mean in today's 24/7 world can I. Can I send a text or can I send an email. You know I need your physical presence. We need to show we have a group. I think our biggest challenges is how do we keep getting young people involved and and part as they mean not have the same passions we have about protecting it. And to them it may not be important or as important as it wants to me.

[00:19:54] Do you think it's a difference in the thought of this before.

[00:19:58] When I grew up you played outside you put parts of fish DNA you're outdoors. Today's kids have so much access to the Internet electronic games to things like that. That that it's hard. I think they don't get outdoors maybe as much as we did when we were younger. Do you think that plays into anchors events.

[00:20:17] That's a big factor and part of it is their lives are sort of structured and I say structured in that. OK.

[00:20:23] Monday's karate night Tuesdays ask Are they involved in sports and how do you know part of it is and do they live someplace where they can get out. I mean we we have an advantage you know whether you're talking about the Gallatin Valley or not you know whether it's Bozeman Belgrade Manhattan or month or three forks and fish the ponds the Madison's right here and the galaxies right here and the Missouri is right here. You know and I always tell people here because I'm two hours to just one place I want to fish in this state. Now I can't get to the big horn but you name it. And beyond and beyond the big timber Boulder in two hours. I'd be on the Yellowstone in two hours. But you think we have an advantage most kids down and out in part of his parents today. You know you can talk about that. They may not have the time. I mean Bud doesn't lie with some of the local kids you know get them involved and that and that's marvelous. But how do we how do we you know the parents have the time. Some of working two jobs share some no single family. What are things Van you know Van I get philosophical at times because bad can get bad can be very philosophical. But how do we get a fishing license for kids and kids under 16. You know it's free. OK. Now if my kid when my kids were here as long as I'm fishing and I'm efficient I think fish for free. But I have to have a fishing license. What about the single mom is raising four kids you know. How do you how do you do something to work. And I understand a single moms single family a single parent family. How do we have to make and make an accessible from them. I don't. How do we. You know you're right. How do we get him outdoors. I mean that's what that's what playing time was. You know I need you again. My wife Anita and I were talking about and when the street lights came on it was time to come out of the house.

[00:22:22] No matter where you grew up you know. And you know we played sandlot baseball our baseball was never organized till we got into what little league you know till you were ten or eleven. You played sandlot everybody playing every day and you know if I had I wouldn't chase crawfish in the creek by the house. I mean we built forts you know and we don't treat tree houses. Sure that it's a different it's a different world. And and everybody's afraid and that's a shame you know. And you're right there's so many distractions whether it's the Internet whether it's the self you know and I'm fascinated when

you go to restaurant owners for their mother and father two kids and their heads are dead. So.

[00:23:07] How do we change. I don't know how we change that. I really don't. How did you know. I just do it by trying to do things with youth whether it's flight time whether it's a casting event whatever the case may be. How do we reach out and how do we instill in them. You know it's it's it's part of it's just getting outdoors. And one of the things I think we all need to stress is it's not just the fishing. Hey did you see that. You know that metalwork Did you see them. MARTIN Did you see whatever it is we're looking at. You have to make it on and I don't know whether we do a good job of that either.

[00:23:49] I went down to two different versions of it in Missouri. We used to have things called Trump parks. If you get a chance in fly fishermen down and Xena wrote a thing about blowing whistles and fish and cheese balls and salmon eggs and the trout farms. That's the trout fishing I knew but the fisheries biologist who is a dear friend of mine got all the organizations involved and here's what I wanted do I want to have wild trout management areas. I want to have trophy Trump management areas I want to have wintertime catch release fishing so I can take some of the pressure off of some of our areas it can evolve. And in Missouri the the opportunities have expanded.

[00:24:33] Here and here in Montana I would you know we have crowning. I can remember 25 years ago when I moved here. If you came to a pullout and it was a car and if you went to the next pull out. Now if if there's a current a full out you're in it's your car two cars will pull it and come down and ask you how you're doing. There is I mean you say crowning I say maybe it's ethics or maybe it's behaviors. That's why fish some of the smaller streams because I know where to go and I don't want to see other people. I think there and there are those opportunities that don't get written up in magazines and don't you know don't get a whole lot of fishing pressure and anger's more of that and we do have more access than we've ever had. We didn't lose because a river runs through it. It all changed and a lot of it changed and I can remember the premier embarrassment. Robert Redford stood in front of us and I hope I don't run this for you. I really do. And because it wasn't supposed to be a great hit the movie was it was going to land. Alvin it limited you know 100 theaters and it went gangbusters because it does tell a wonderful story and it showed off Montana at its best. But also we went through a period where we're fly fishing just blossomed because I want and I want to be Paul or I want to be you know Norman I want to go do what they did. I want to go catch fish and I want you know I love the views and that's you know. And we have lost some we have lost maybe some of the negativity of what we have and look out for the killer cat.

[00:26:14] So visually management's changing. I mean you look at what's happened you mean catch a release. I mean fishing is as good as it ever been. We don't stock fish except in in lakes here in Missouri or in Montana. But I think the fishing is as good as it once 40 if not better than it was 40 years ago. So the crowding that's one of the things I loved Yellowstone I love to get a line down there but I don't do it often just because every time I do 30 feet down the river there's another guy with it with with the line in the water. You know it's just it's tough to find a space where you can just be. Yeah I know. And I'll you know I'll give you Mike the fireball doesn't get hammered because a fish aren't big. Yeah okay. I fish for our fish a viral like early when everything's blown out here I still fish viral following one's vision at best but also causes a little crowding issues. Same way with the Missouri fish it in the wintertime because it is it doesn't get his hands or it is hard. I I give up on it about the third we can't make it because it becomes just one drip after another and a lot of banker. And there's etiquette that I. I'm sorry if I'm a late angler and you're in a

drift but you've got the whole river to fish. I'm going to have one mile to walk and fish. There's two things to be said for that. I'm kind of stuck. But then again I can work a group of fish over the Yellowstone River. I go in the north entrance and I come down the back side and walk in. It's not an easy hike and it's quite vertical but I aim for that fly behind the same rock five or six times or bring a cutthroat up you in a drift. You get one shot. There is a difference. So yeah.

[00:28:11] Well we've seen it here. The bucket bucket biology. I mean we've lost some fisheries to people throwing in. And. I'm not going to bash walleye anglers while as good for one thing and it's eating but you know throwing your your minnows in when you're done. Yeah I know too many fisheries biologists and you know one of the things we make sure we do if we've got a fish that isn't from that stream. I'm sorry we throw them on on the ground or we don't we then not put them in the rivers we're in it. And that's one of the biggest threats we've seen where she's seeing more and more of that in the West and you know even in the Midwest you talk about the silver carp in the Big Head Carper are now becoming an invasive species. I think that's our biggest threat is introduction of getting in. We went through that we've survived hurling disease you know we spent a lot of money but when you talk to. And when I talked to the fisheries biologists you probably know what they're talking about is that it's just going to take some generations. The brown trout grew out of it. They were they had it in Europe for years. The brown trout you know evolve and the rainbow sort of all and that's what's really happened. I mean most of the populations are back where they were. So it just takes time. Biggest threats of invasive species whether it's dead man dead man or whatever it's called the algae or mud snails or and you see it and part of it is that's our biggest threat right. Well I can talk about global warming but I definite can of worms in some way say thing.

[00:29:39] They go to each other. Well I mean one of the first one are we lived here it was 1990. It was a close one the coldest winter is on record and it was below zero from Thanksgiving to the middle of January right below zero. I mean the highs today was zero. But if we kill off all the pine bark. Yeah. We haven't had a winter length that since and that's 25 years and that's when you know you think about it something's changed. I mean right now we've got snow which is this is the first time we've had this much snow last this long in the 25 years I've lived here. So something's changing. You know we go through I know there's cycles we go through droughts and we get through you know the flood in 97. But you know what do we do. I mean Earth they're talking about a big big huge storm on East Coast for this weekend with Snows they haven't seen in 100 years. Snow levels. It's kind of scary. I certainly don't know the science behind it. Yes well as I should note I know when I was a kid growing up in Wisconsin we often were trick or treating in the snow. And now we're lucky if we get a white Christmas. I mean even here in most time Thanksgiving are invariably Halloween the kids are in winter getting seizure. This year sure it's late. We did. You know the walk here and three fourths because I happened to be home saying I have to see all the wicked Christmas strong iShares normally. People stop to give the hot chocolate the warm up this year and they're just walking down a stream is gorgeous. Yet we did have a white Christmas here and I'm gonna be honest with it.

[00:31:09] So for us it's rare here in three for our lives because we're in a banana belt or what but gang remembering you know we'd get a snow but it would go away. So. Find your mentor. Find some money. No one is willing to work with you. Number till you're willing to listen. I learned I have to two great mentors and you know in my life one was out here on the other was Jack Warner and taught me to really how to fish in the past. And John Cornyn taught me how to tie flies better flies. He taught me all the techniques but they also taught me some casting things I don't take on Bob Jaclyn. You know if you



wanted a mentor and if you wanted to learn casting find somebody who's had a cast and be the only thing is. Be willing to take their advice. They can talk to you all you want but if you're not willing to go out the yard or the park and cast then you won't get better. You have to go in and casting is all about doing the. Show. I don't care what it is whether it's fan casting bait casting or fine casting it's all about practice. Find a mentor or find a club. There's a tenure chapter in Bozeman and they have. They have meetings and you know there's something hang onto their meat you know say hey and I might. My favorite story was it back in St. Lewis. I read in the paper in the FSF. Those aren't fly fishers is offering a six week flight time course.

[00:32:40] All right I'll show up. I come in. I've got my flying time but this guy goes Oh you understand this is a beginners course. Oh it is. Yeah well I'll tell you what we'll they will refund your money and you can become a member of the club. I said okay. And you can help us teach a class which I did but it for me it was you know it finding it finding a mentor. Finding someone willing to spend time with you. Get you out teach. I mean you talk about fly fishing. It's about knots. It's about what fly do I select. How do I know what fly select you are. Even if it's spin fishing what lure. How big how small. What color. But again what not. You know one of the things we don't I don't think people in fly fishing spend enough time on is not because if you lose time on the street in time not less time you know if the fly is in the water you can't catch fish you're spending you know 30 minutes tying stuff it's 30 minutes of fishing at lost and sometimes you lost that fly because fish are active. You may have missed that window but I could find a mentor but again. Or find a club. So if I was going to eat one piece with a stone and fly fisherman I think that's great advice and I've heard many other folks give that and I've heard people say don't be intimidated by the price of gear. You don't need expensive gear to catch fish.

[00:34:06] Get started in fly fishing. You don't need an eight hundred dollar graphite flyer. Bob Jaclyn for less than a hundred dollars can get you in an outfit that is adequate. And I got to be honest with some of the stuff that's coming out of Korea today is better than niche stuff. I was fishing with 40 years ago. Right. So and he's got some you know you have to shop right. Don't be intimidated. You can get into and fishing you know fly rod reel line a hundred bucks will. Get you started. Find out if you like it. Don't spin. You know like making three thousand dollars on a bamboo fly why. Your first time out of the box because number one you won't be able to cast it. Number two you might be a little disappointed but that's a great idea. It's easy to get into and yeah. Don't be overcome with the price. I evolve. OK. You know I think I started off you know time flies with some of the worst flies around. And guess what they caught fish. Now I have you know chicken necks worth hundreds of dollars and I have a bunch of but I didn't buy them all once I acquired them over time. And let's fly time and hugs and books and even the books were acquired over time. I mean the library I gave you was acquired over 30 30 years of collecting. And again you don't have to become a book collector. You've go to the public library and we're closed to book and there's a there's books about anything. Everything. The essence of flying casting the flying time is videos YouTube videos there's all kinds of stuff now. So I don't. I'd rather read about it than watch a video. But that's just me. Because that's that's that's me the person.

[00:35:56] And you know I've been with Badlands set up that would be fairly easy to get along with. And you have to. And you have to like them not just as an individual but as efficient farmer. And they've got to share some of the same passions. And there's probably on one hand guys I'd fetch with. Right. And that's fine. But if I was gonna be stuck for a long period of time there's usually one or two that I'd want to be stuck with one long period of time. And then you know part of it is a they have to have some of the same philosophies

you have to you know whether it's you know it's not so much maybe catch releases in the right philosophy but I'm saying they like to fly fish or they I go with a buddy of mine we go up to Canada and fish for Pike and small mouth with heavy gear. I mean it's fun. But we have a good time and we catch fish and everybody is going to take a piece I mean one of the worst things to do is go to a fishing camp with four days and everything and pitch in. So I I I like two guys on a fishing trip so good. You know like the same things you like. You know and being a decent cameras and can carry a conversation too. And also no one. Peace and quiet. Fine. And there's something to be said for that. And being not afraid to fish alone or the lion as a fish with you go up on go down and you know we'll meet back at the truck.

[00:37:23] Is that efficient partner. Yeah. I don't know. And it's fun. And the great story that Craig Lance who lives in and outside of Portland Oregon he lives in Washington got me in a book collecting and bamboo rocket blame him for a lot of my sins. But he has no pity that he didn't carry a camera. Right. So there is his was going to give him an award was the last year a year before ending up there. Nobody has a picture. Craig fish simple. So I went for a dug out you know 20 or 30 shots that I'd taken over the years and electronically and I sent them to him. But I met with a lot of pictures of me fishing. I took pictures of me with you know showing the fish off. The other thing is you've taken pictures of where you're at. You don't need to bust my chops about hey I don't give a darn about the fish. Take some shots and I you know I've gotten to the point now where I'll take pictures and something will strike me whether it's ice forming on rocks or whatever. And I think that's important too. It's not just about the fish. People come out and visit. It's the vistas. It's the wildlife. It's this places and people don't understand every river valley has its own personality whether it's the pink hole the beaver had the ruby the Jeff they all have their own person and there's no way the way to describe it. The Rocky Mountain West. Every time you cross a mountain there's a new vista and the mountains change with the seasons. That's another thing most people don't realize. Yeah right now you know there's snow capped. But again when the sun in that purple hits and you know about 430 in the afternoon it's lights up the snow.

[00:39:14] It's all about where we live in the mountains and every mountain as I said every river has its own person and every river valley has its own personality. I only mentioned you know some of the rooming and some of the rivers that form the Jeff. But those are where I spend a lot of my time. So that's where I really find it. They're very special and out there and they all have their own personnel and their own places to fish. Some. Now I just hope everybody gets an opportunity participates. It does. I think this is important you know not so much for us but for the next generation. And I know how do we tell our stories and we I'm lucky are my two boys love to fly a fish. They love to fly fish. They come back and visit and we get a chance to go. How do you instill that. You know you have an obligation. But I'll tell Also cashing and don't force it in and they well or they won't. But don't force at night. And I'm a peg on my dad because I think he forced my brother who's five years older to me exactly to finish and my brother didn't like fishing and my brother very very rarely went fishing with my dad. And. I got to say I love this and I think it makes a difference.