

WESTERN TROUT FISHING "The Total Experience".

How to plan for maximum pleasure from a western fishing trip--  
by The Lilly Family

Prologue--Nick Lyons

Introduction--Limit the area--Choosing where and when to fish  
the west.

Rivers  
Creeks  
Lakes

Ecology and Entomology of Western waters

Matching the western hatches

Tackle, clothing and equipment

How to fish waters of the west--Spring--Summer--Fall

Rivers  
Spring Creeks--meadow streams  
Lakes

For Women Only

For the family

High Country Fishing

Wildlife--Wildflowers--photography

Why wild trout

Management  
Regulations  
Catch & release  
National Parks  
National Forests

Travel and accommodations

Camping--motel--guest ranch--car rental--etc.

Guided Fishing--Suggestions and advice

Summary

List of books and maps

Bud Lilly's Guide to Western Fly Fishing

by Bud Lilly and Paul Schullery

proposal and outline

February, 1986

## Contents

### Part One - The Western Fly Fisherman

1. So you want to fish the west
2. Do you like people or trout?
3. Gearing up
4. Western flies
5. Guides

### Part Two - The Seasons

6. Early spring (the season before the season)
7. Spring
8. Early summer
9. Late summer
10. Fall
11. Early Winter
12. Winter (the season after the season)

### Part Three - The Total Experience

13. The Well-Rounded Angler (and his family)
14. A Western Sampler
15. Why Western Fishing Keeps Getting Better

### Other possible chapters or appendices:

directory of guides

directory of shops

directory of management agencies, fee-fishing areas (such as spring creeks),  
and related information sources.

Bud Lilly's Guide to Western Fly Fishing is an introductory primer on western fishing - the tackle, the seasons, the techniques, and the full array of opportunities for enjoyment, not all of which are directly related to the fishing. In all the practical ways, the Guide will help travelers plan their trip; it will introduce the tackle, the conditions, and the realities of western fishing, and it will let them know what to expect throughout the seasons. This approach will also be helpful to westerners, of course.

Part One starts with some practical talk aimed at clearing away the myths - all the fish are huge, all the rivers are wild, and so on. Chapter Two introduces some very important principles about how to spend your time, such as the useful and little-appreciated wisdom that the best fishing is often not the most famous fishing. Chapters Three and Four outline the requirements of western fishing in tackle, with some frank observations on the fashions, trends, and enduring realities of fly selection. Chapter Five is a refreshing, informative, and often entertaining insider's view of the business of guiding, telling you what to do and what to expect when you engage a professional guide; the west has fishing manners too, and the angler-guide relationship depends upon both parties knowing the rules.

Part Two approaches western fly fishing in the way that most travelers will find best. Based on decades of experience with helping anglers plan trips and understand western fishing (whether they are western or eastern), Bud has learned that seasonal information is of fundamental importance. Part Two will do for the fishing season what Part One, Chapter Two did for fishing the lesser-known waters. Most visiting anglers and a surprising number of westerners neglect the "non-seasons," when the west has some of its most spectacular fishing. Off-season fishing isn't a novelty act; both Paul and Bud have seen the heaviest caddis hatches of their varied experiences, the

heaviest they had ever seen anywhere, on the Yellowstone River several weeks prior to the spring runoff (thus, the season before the season). Both have also had excellent fishing, to rising trout, every month of the winter.

Part Two introduces, season by season, the techniques and opportunities of western fishing. Spring techniques and opportunities require different tackle and information than summer ones. In some seasons, high water in the rivers means the best fishing may be in lakes or on the spring creeks. Each chapter in Part Two introduces the best opportunities of each season, and explains how to take advantage of them. Important points are illustrated by brief anecdotes from Bud's experiences in a lifetime of western fishing.

Part Three, the shortest part, rounds out the book by suggesting that much of what makes western fishing great is not found on the end of a fly line. An important message for many years at Bud's shop in West Yellowstone was that when you come west to fish you can do much more than fish. Chapter Thirteen will include some thoughts on how to make the fishing trip as full as possible, and as broad as possible in the memories it inspires. Chapter Fourteen is the closest the book comes to "kiss and tell" fishing, and it isn't close at all. Not a description of best fishing spots, it is instead some ideas on how a good fishing trip - or several good fishing trips might proceed in various parts of the west. Chapter Fifteen is a statement much like Bud has been making for many years on how we can give western fly fishing what it needs to keep improving; Bud's long association with conservation and intelligent fisheries management is practically as famous as his knowledge of western fishing, and this chapter will introduce important causes, organizations, and issues. Esquire publisher Arnold Gingrich, in writing about Bud's influential "Catch-and-release Club," said that "Bud Lilly is a trout's best friend." We may title this chapter "How to be a trout's best friend."

The book is organized as a planning guide, with special attention to the traveling angler from other parts of the country but with obvious sympathy for the westerner who is either new to the fishing or has yet to fully appreciate its possibilities. It is primarily a guide book, but we expect it to be lively and entertaining enough that it can be something of a "wish-book" too, for the fisherman who is only dreaming of trips to come or trips already made. The organization of the book is based on Bud's enormous experience with the questions and problems of fly fishermen from all parts of the country; it is aimed at serving the needs they most often express.

The book will be written in Bud's "voice," that is he is the one telling the stories and providing the information in first person narrative. If it is more appropriate for it to be "by Bud Lilly with Paul Schullery" that is fine with Paul.

Specifications and Requirements

Length of manuscript: 150 - 175 manuscript pages

Illustrations: about 50 photographs  
possible line drawing headpieces for each chapter

Index: yes

Bibliography: optional, but probably so

Maps: none seem necessary, but might be useful cosmetically; perhaps a general map of important western watersheds in the Rockies.

Production: We would like at least some hardbound; because of Bud's unusually broad acquaintanceship there will be important opportunities for sales of hardbound copies. Most sales will certainly be paperback copies. We do not have strong opinions yet on size of book, but we do not think it should be any smaller than 6" x 9" and imagine that it should be a little larger.

Schedule: If the book is approved by April we will anticipate completion and submission of the manuscript by January, 1987.

Royalty: 50% - 50% between the authors, all of Paul's share going to Bud until Bud's initial investment of \$6,000 is covered.

stream insects for his group to study. photos by Dr. James McCue.

2.12 Lefty Kreh, one of the greatest of all casting instructors, demonstrating his low backcast for a group of students. Lefty can cast so far that the fish are spoiled by the time he gets them in. photo courtesy of Fenwick/Sevenstrand.

2.13 Jimmy Green, mastermind of so many of Fenwick's rod developments over the past quarter of a century, was also a superb teacher of casting skills at our clinics. photo courtesy of Fenwick/Sevenstrand.

There is no 2.14.

2.15 Night-time visitors left their tracks in the snow in front of the Trout Shop. West Yellowstone is surrounded by excellent grizzly bear habitat.

### Chapter Three - a Fly Fishing Family

3.1 Greg, (GIVE AGE)<sup>9</sup>, and Mike, (GIVE AGE)<sup>7</sup>.

3.2 Mike, (GIVE AGE)<sup>6</sup>, showing his catch in the Trout Shop.

3.3 Mike, foreground, Greg, background, working a good bank on the Gallatin River.

3.4 Annette grew to be a fine fly fisherman and a popular guide.

3.5 Annette, (GIVE AGE)<sup>15</sup>.

3.6 Pat minded the business while I answered questions.

3.7 Annette demonstrating casting at a Bud Lilly/Berkley clinic, while Bonnie looks on.



- 3.8 The whole family doubled as models in our catalog.
- 3.9 Greg casting during a Bud Lilly/Berkley clinic.
- 3.10 Mike, left, and Greg, were both experienced and sought-after guides by the time they were twenty.
- 3.11 The family in the late 1970s, from left: Annette, Greg, Pat, Bud, and <sup>Mike</sup> Miek. This picture was taken during a Conclave of the F.F.F., and we were all exhausted from guiding, giving talks, and running the shop. Poppy maintained her usual calm.

#### Chapter Four - Clients, and Other Challenges

- 4.1 With Dave Bascom's help the Trout Shop published a "Fishguide," with map of the area's fishing and additional information on flies, seasons, and hatches. The fish with the <sup>Lilly</sup> lilly in its mouth became our symbol.
- 4.3-4.4 Women clients appreciated the "Ladies Only" trips with Bonnie and Annette, an opportunity to learn fly fishing away from male society.
- 4.5 Among our guides who went on to open shops of their own was Will Godfrey, who for many years ran a shop in Last Chance, Idaho on the Henry's Fork.
- 4.6 Guiding the British Ambassador on the Lewis Channel, Yellowstone Park, 1976.
- 4.7 The Ambassador's camp. Front row, left to right: Mrs. Townsley, <sup>Lady</sup> ~~Mrs.~~ (PROPER TITLE? Lady?) Ramsbotham, Sir Peter Ramsbotham. ~~unidentified man~~ <sup>Jeremy</sup> Second row, left to right: Greg, unidentified man, Bud, Yellowstone Park maintenance supervisor Bill Hape, Yellowstone assistant superintendent Bob Haraden, superintendent John Townsley, assistant superintendent Vern Hennesey.

4.8 With Curt Gowdy on the Firehole, 197\_. PHOTO TO COME.

#### Chapter Five - Experts

5.1 Don and Mary Martinez, probably about 19\_\_\_. PHOTO TO COME.

5.2 Dave Whitlock, one of fly fishing's most versatile and inventive advocates, with more proof of his many talents.

5.3 Lefty Kreh and Pat in the shop.

5.4 Ernest Schwiebert, author of such important books as Matching the Hatch and Nymphs, showing impeccable form as he lands a Firehole trout. Ernie and I spent this day fishing and being photographed by Dan Callaghan, one of fly fishing's best photographers.

5.5 Drawing a map for some friends at the head table at a F.F.F. Banquet. From left to right, Yellowstone Superintendent Jack Anderson, Doug Swisher, Joan Wulff, Lee Wulff, and Bud.

5.6 Greg in the shop with Ed Koch, the great Pennsylvania midge fisherman.

5.7 At the 1974 F.F.F. Conclave with Pres Tolman (left) and Arnold Gingrich.

5.8 Talking over the fishing on a cold day, with Charlie Brooks and Doug Swisher.

5.9 Dave Whitlock's drawings, both comic and serious, graced the Trout Shop catalog for many years.

#### Chapter Six - A Trout's Best Friends

6.1 SIZE AND DESCRIPTION OF TROUT. We used to think nothing of killing a fish like this. Now we should think hard before we

kill any at all.

6.2 Our little promotion of the Catch-and-Release Club included the sale of items to make releasing fish easier, and an assortment of club pins.

6.3 Montana fishing is already great, but we can make it even better. photo by Montana Promotion Division, Department of Commerce.

6.4 No caption needed.

#### Chapter Seven - Once a Guide

7.1 This would make a nice picture to use following the end of the actual text, as a closing.

7.2 ~~Bud~~ An Alaskan silversalmon. PHOTO TO COME