

10 Cures for Election Blues

Are you as tired of listening to political arguments as I am? If you need a quick cure from attack ads, incriminating videos, and name calling these close to home fly fishing destinations provide relief from the endless election coverage. Fly fishing is one of the few things that is totally in the moment and the stresses of the world disappear. All of these destinations are within 1.25 hours (most closer) of the Wambolt world headquarters / west side of the Denver metro.

Bear Creek between Morrison and Evergreen: Many pullouts provide good fishing on Bear Creek along with several town and Jeff Co Parks. Explore some of the out of the way places and parks and you can avoid the people.

South Platte Two Forks: access via Foxtan Road in Conifer, turn left at the end, and follow to confluence. You can fish downstream all the way to Strontia Reservoir. Large stoneflies make this area home. Fishing can also be good upstream on both forks.

South Platte Waterton Canyon: walk or bike up at least 1.75 miles. The good fishing starts below the diversion dam and you can fish another 3-4 miles going upstream. It takes a little effort to get above the bait folks, but fishes well with a growing population of browns and bows.

North fork of South Platte Pine Valley Park: Just north of the town of Pine lies this Jeffco park with a stocked pond and at least a mile of river. You can walk upstream quite a ways. Stream fishes best when flows are at 25-75 cfs.

Clear Creek in the Canyon: travel west from Golden on Highway 6. Recent stream improvements around Mayhem Gulch and upstream have improved the fishing and the new paved bike trail makes for easier access. Lower flows best for accessing the fishing.

Clear Creek along Interstate 70: lots of public water to explore and several areas that the creek bends away from the highway with minimal highway noise. There are lots of browns, some bows, and the upper reaches

above Silver Plume have cutthroats.

South Boulder Creek below Gross Reservoir: you'll hike down a fairly steep hill for about 1/3 mile (you'll have to climb out at the end) to get to this pretty section of water with a wilderness feel. Fishing is available downstream for miles into Walker Ranch Park.

Middle Boulder Creek below Barker Reservoir: head west from Boulder and up the canyon. Several pull outs available and the gradient mellows closer to the reservoir. Like most canyons fish the wider/flatter sections at higher flows, and the higher gradient sections with low flows.

Fraser River between Winter Park and Fraser: stream improvements a few years back increased holding water in this willowy section. Brook, brown and rainbow trout call this water home. Best to fish with fairly low water so you can walk up the river bed.

One of the joys of fishing these gems is that you don't need a massive arsenal of tail water patterns. A few simple patterns and a good drift should be all you need to hook into some fun. Some of my go-to fly patterns include parachute adams, elk hair caddis, stimulators, rainbow warriors, princes, san juan worms, pheasant tails, black beauties, and jujubee midges.

Next time you want to escape from those election blues, give these cures a try. You may be surprised what you find!

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OCTOBER 2016 FLY OF THE MONTH

October Fly



BEADHEAD HOT COLLAR PAT'S

RUBBERLEG

Size: 8-12

Family Matched: Stoneflies

Life Cycle: Nymph

Fly Type: Attractor Pattern

A flashier and sexier version of the classic Pat's Rubberleg, the Beadhead Hot Collar Pat's Rubberleg adds a bit of heavy metal and a contrasting orange collar to make this fly really pop! The long rubber legs (imitating the distinctive legs, antenna, and tails of the stonefly nymph) paddle frantically in the water, while the orange bead collar provides a tantalizing spot of contrast against the dull backdrop of the riverbed. This pattern is especially productive when fished during the spawn as trout key-in on the orange collar in their eagerness to eat eggs.



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**DOUBLE YOUR RIG
DOUBLE YOUR FUN**



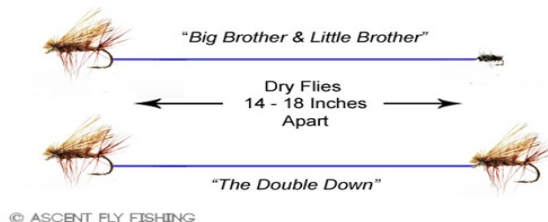
*By: Peter Stitche
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There are times on the river when a little excess and doubling down can turn an average day on the water into one for the record book! Double dry fly rigs, double indicator rigs, and double beadhead nymphs can enable the fly fisher to go all-in on a hot hatch, detect the light strikes, or seduce the aggression of a trophy trout buried in a deep pool. Not recommended for the timid angler or those that are content with 6 fish days, if you're ready to double your fish count and the size of fish you land, read on!

Double Dry Fly Rigs

Adaptations of the Dry-Dropper Rig in which a wet fly pattern is suspended in the water column beneath a dry fly, the "Big Brother & Little Brother" and "Double Down rigs" are double dry fly setups that can be deadly on the water. The "Big Brother & Little Brother" rig is one that you can use when fish are rising and feeding on tiny dry flies and it becomes difficult to track your fly on the water or pick it out from all of the naturals drifting around it. The "Big Brother & Little Brother" rig is accomplished by first tying on a large dry fly that is easy to see and can act as an indicator similar to that of a Dry-Dropper rig. Using a 14-18 inch of tippet tied off the back of the hook, you will then tie on the Little Brother, which will imitate the small insect that the fish are actually targeting and feeding on. When fishing this rig, you will keep your eye on the Big Brother, and if it drops beneath the surface of the water, set the hook, because a fish just ate the

Double Dry Fly Rigs



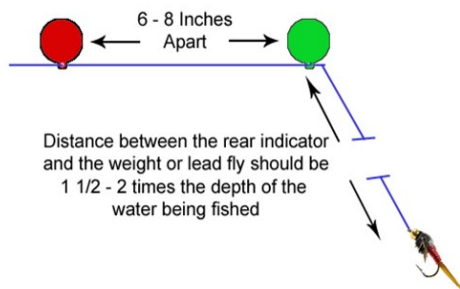
Little Brother that was tagging along behind.

The "Double Down" rig can be the fly fisher's best friend when fish begin to actively feed on a specific hatch or life cycle that is represented by a dry fly. During the Mother's Day caddis hatch, the Trico mayfly spinner fall, or other major event on the water, trout will get tunnel vision and will gorge themselves on a specific fly and life cycle. During these events we just need to give them what they want in order to join the action. Doubling up, or even tripling up with the hot fly will add to the swarm and give you multiple chances with each cast to catch fish!

Double Indicator Rig

Was that slight pause in the drift, or bump of the indicator a fish or was I just tapping the bottom of the river? The soft mouthed take of a fly by a trout can be hard to detect for even the most seasoned angler. Detecting the light strike of trout

Double Indicator Nymph Rig



feeding on wet fly patterns can become increasingly difficult under extreme conditions like fishing fast pockets surrounded by white water, or when trying to grab a lazy winter trout out of the depths of a pool. The Double Indicator Nymph Rig is a simple and effective technique for sensing these subtle takes. By placing two indicators approximately 6-8 inches apart on your line, the fly fisher will be able to detect even the lightest strike. As the indicators drift down the river together a strike will be marked by a change in distance and motion between the two strike indicators. If one of the indicators pauses while the other continues, or if one of the indicators moves in a direction counter to the current of the river and its partner, set the hook! (Application note: My preferred indicator for this rig is the clear, glow in the dark thingamabob.)



Double Beadhead Nymphs

Stung by recent memories of hooks and well-trained by months of catch and release fishing, fall and winter trout are leery of anything that looks out of place and often become shy of lead weights and heavy tippets. In preparation for the slim pickings of the winter and guided by their instinct to conserve calories, the cautious fall trout will begin to congregate in deep, slow pools throughout the river. This shift to deeper habitat and a tendency to be spooked by weights pinched to the angler's line requires a change in tactics. By using heavy, double beadhead fly patterns (such as the Double Beadhead Continued on next page

Do you know someone that you'd like to include in our Fly of the Month Club? Please sign up on our website www.wamboltweatlh.com or email