



“Every new fish you catch  
occupies an important place  
in your personal  
angling history.”

- William G. Tapply



“Every man has a fish in  
his life that haunts him.”

- *Negley Farson*



“So many fish, so little time.”



# FOREWORD



The passion behind this book had two starting points; I just didn't realize it back then. The first starting point was as a young boy casting red worms to rock bass and sunfish living in the small ponds and streams of Howard, Clinton and Tippecanoe counties of Indiana. I didn't know what fly fishing was and I didn't care - I just liked fishing and being where the fish were. The second starting point occurred as a teenager when my dentist, Doc Stunkard gave me an old Heddon fly reel and an old Shakespeare fiberglass fly rod. Snelled mustad bait hooks and pieces of white t-shirt served as my flies. I have no idea what the fish thought they were, but I caught a lot of bass and bluegill with that pattern before I received my first fly tying kit for Christmas. One of my all time favorite presents, purchased by my folks from the Herter's catalog. At any rate, a passion was born and it grows with each fish I catch.

The genesis for this book came from a dawning realization that while the fish may represent the end game for some, for me they serve more as place holders reminding me of the who, what, where and when of a particular trip. Mention of king salmon instantly transports me to Michigan's Muskegon River, cold autumn mornings with mist rising off the water, drifting large caddis imitations to big fish moving up the river to spawn. Show me a picture of a steelhead and I am immediately wading snow lined Lake Erie tributaries casting glo bugs and small woolly buggers to dark forms holding in shallow riffles. Talk of smallmouth bass and I find myself wet wading the small streams of central Indiana on muggy summer evenings, throwing crawdad imitations into dark slow moving pools waiting for the slight twitch signaling a take. Rainbow trout equal Alaska, brown bears, float planes, and spawning sockeye. Bluegill, my favorite farm pond. Redfish bring memories of Christmas and Spring Break vacations with my parents and Lee and Inez Baker fishing the intercoastal around Long Boat and Siesta Keys.

So you see, the fish are important, each for their own reasons and I wanted a way to keep track of not only the fish, but also the date, the place, the fly and any other important details of the trip. Like the first smallmouth I caught on a fly. It wasn't a big fish, but it marks a trip that included three of us in a dead-heat race with a large bull across a pasture to get to the stream. We won that race, but only after headlong jumps off a five-foot cut bank into six feet of water. I bet that bull is still laughing and I would love to read what he wrote in his diary that evening.

If you've fly fished for any length of time I know you have your own stories, and in most cases I'm sure they are marked by a special fish. I hope you enjoy using the Fly Fisher's Life List and Diary as much as I have putting it together, and if you've caught a fish on a fly that I don't have in the book drop me a line at [harfish@ontheflyoutfitters.com](mailto:harfish@ontheflyoutfitters.com) and I'll add it in the next edition.

# INTRODUCTION

Water covers almost three-quarters of the earth's surface and as a result there are more species of fish than all other vertebrates combined. There are over 250,000 different species of fish inhabiting the earth today. Fish can be caught on every continent and in a wide range of habitats, from high mountain streams to the deepest areas in the oceans.

The Fly Fishers Life List and Diary was created to provide you with a means of keeping track of the different species of fish you have taken on a fly over the course of your lifetime. The Fly Fishers Life List and Diary not only allows you to log each species of fish you've caught but also the date, location and the fly you were using.

The Fly Fishers Life List and Diary is divided into three sections, the species listing, the life list and the index.

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## Species Listing

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This section contains a listing of 235 fish that can be taken on a fly. Most of the species listed are regularly and intentionally pursued with a fly rod. However, some of the species listed, such as the Northern Hog Sucker, are most often taken while fishing for other species.

The species listing is organized in taxonomic order. Two classes of fish are included, Chondrichthyes (sharks, skates and rays) and Osteichthyes (this class contains the majority of fish accessible to fly fishers). Within these two classes the fish are organized by order and then by species (e.g. Esociformes which include musky, pickerel, and pike). Both the common name and the scientific name are given for each fish listed.

The species listing provides a place for you to enter the date, location, fly used and other pertinent comments for each species. The species listing also provides a smattering of quotes and insights about fishing to help us keep it all in perspective.

  
*“Calling fly  
fishing a hobby is  
like calling brain  
surgery a job.”*

*- Paul Schullery*



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## The Life List

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The life list provides a place to list fish caught in the order that you catch them. This in turn will give a quick view of how many different species of fish you have taken on a fly rod.

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## The Index

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This section is an alphabetical listing, by common name, of all the fish contained in the book including the page on which a particular species can be found.

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# Salmoniformes

Salmon, Trout

## Rainbow Trout ~ *Oncorhynchus mykiss*

DATE

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LOCATION

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FLY

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REMARKS

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## Coho Salmon ~ *Oncorhynchus kisutch*

DATE

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LOCATION

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FLY

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REMARKS

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## Pink Salmon ~ *Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*

DATE

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LOCATION

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FLY

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REMARKS

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## Atlantic Salmon ~ *Salmo salar*

DATE

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LOCATION

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FLY

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REMARKS

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# Perciformes

Jacks, Amberjacks, Pompano, Queefish, Leerfish, Trevally

## **Pacific Crevalle Jack** ~ *Caranx caninus*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

FLY \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Permit** ~ *Trachinotus falcatus*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

FLY \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **African Pompano** ~ *Alectis ciliaris*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

FLY \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **Florida Pompano** ~ *Trachinotus carolinus*

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

FLY \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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