



Nor' East Chapter

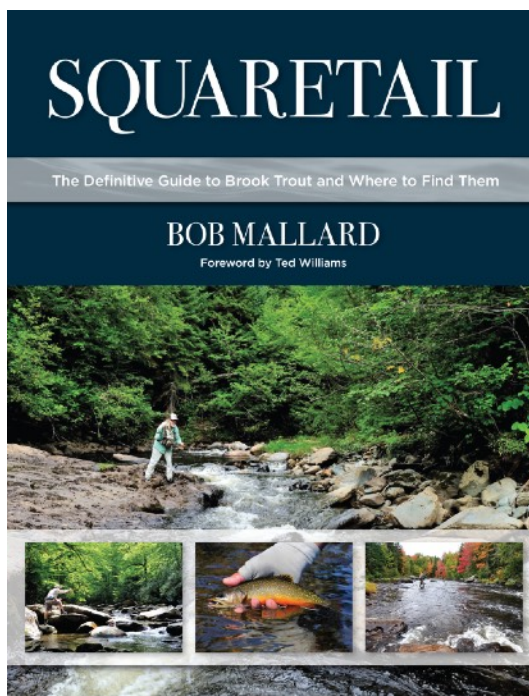
March 2021 Newsletter

March 1 , Monday Night's Speaker

Bob Mallard

“Fishing Brook Trout”

BOB MALLARD has fly fished for over forty years. He is a former fly shop owner and a [Registered Maine Fishing Guide](#). Bob is a blogger, writer, author, fly designer, and native fish advocate. He is the Publisher, Northeast Regional Editor, and a regular contributor to [Fly Fish America](#) magazine. Bob is a staff fly designer at [Catch Fly Fishing](#), an Ambassador for [Epic fly rods](#), and on the [Scientific Anglers](#) pro staff. He is also a founding member, former National Vice Chair, and current



ZOOM Meeting March 1, 6 PM

Speaker begins at
7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://
us02web.zoom.us/
j/89224043862?
pwd=SkFGdFZSR
kExbEJKSEINOGV
aUDNOUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89224043862?pwd=SkFGdFZSRkExbEJKSEINOGV aUDNOUT09)

Meeting ID: 892
2404 3862
Passcode: 774224

Contact Info:

President Ben
Meade :
Benjamin.K.Meade
at Gmail dot Com

Newsletter
submissions:
Jim MacDougall,
jm3 at iCloud dot
com

Treasurer's Report
on Last Page

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MEETING

March 1, Bob Mallard,
“Squairetail” and Native
Fish Coalition 7:00 PM

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ben Meade
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This issue is packed
with information. Please
take the time and read
it to the end.

See Page 5

Executive Director and Maine Board member for [Native Fish Coalition](#). Bob's writing, photographs, and flies have been featured in Outdoor Life, Mountain Journal, Fly Fisherman, Fly Fish America, American Angler, Fly Rod & Reel, American Fly Fishing, The Drake, Fly Fishing & Tying Journal, Fly Tyer, Angling Trade, Eastern Fly Fishing, MidCurrent, OrvisNews, The Fiberglass Manifesto, Fly Life Magazine, Southern Trout, Tenkara Angler, On The Fly, Fly Fishing New England, The Maine Sportsman, Northwoods Sporting Journal; Friends of Baxter, Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, and North Maine Woods newsletters; Epic and Planetary Design blogs, R.L. Winston catalog, and the books Guide Flies: How to Tie and Fish the Killer Flies from America's Greatest Guides and Fly Shops, Caddisflies: A Guide to Eastern Species for Anglers and Other Naturalists, America's Favorite Flies, 50 Best Tailwaters to Fly Fish, 25 Best National Parks to Fly Fish, The Hunt for Giant Trout, and Maine Sporting Camps. Look for his books [50 Best Places Fly Fishing the Northeast](#) and [25 Best Towns Fly Fishing for Trout](#) (Stonefly Press,) and his most recent, [Squaretail: The Definitive Guide to Brook Trout and Where to Find Them](#) (Stackpole Books.) Bob can be reached at www.BobMallard.com, info@bobmallard.com or 207-399-6270.

MARCH 1, 2021, 6 PM REGULAR MEETING ON ZOOM

Presentation starts at 7:00 PM

Bob Mallard, Fishing for Brook Trout "Squaretail".

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89224043862?pwd=SkFGdFZSRkExbEJKSEINOGVaUDNOUT09>

Meeting ID: 892 2404 3862

Passcode: 774224

President's Message

Dear fellow Nor'East Chapter Trout Unlimited Members,

A sincere wish to all members of NETU and your family and friends that this note finds you well.

Our next NETU meeting – March 1st over Zoom – will feature Bob Mallard, Executive Director of the Native Fish Coalition. Mr. Mallard is also an author, Registered Maine Guide, native fish advocate, publisher, former fly shop owner, and fly tyer. Bob's talk will be about brook trout, with his excellent and informative book Squaretail as a template.

The March 1st Zoom meeting will begin with open discussion at 6:00 PM, and Mr. Mallard's presentation will follow at 7:00 PM. An NETU Board meeting will follow the presentation.

Perhaps like many of you reading these words, the first trout I ever caught – and the first trout I caught on a fly as well – was a brook trout. For us anglers based in the northeastern U.S., brook trout (well, technically, char) is the trout native to our waters. They are so very special - for so many reasons. In reading Squaretail, you can't help but be reminded many times of just how special they are. Mr. Mallard's knowledge and advocacy for brook trout in our region is extremely commendable. It may go without saying, but the fly angler, huge brook trout fan, and owner of Squaretail writing these words is really looking forward to Mr. Mallard's presentation!

Probably like many of you reading these words, I could refer to many wonderful memories pursuing, catching, and carefully releasing a beautiful brookie back to the body of water from which it was caught. As an example of one of those memories, please allow me to take a stroll along memory lane.

For years I had wondered whether it would be possible to catch a native brook trout in each of New Hampshire's major river watersheds – all in the same day! Having grown up in New Hampshire, I had long reviewed maps of the state and wondered if this far-fetched objective was feasible. In late June of 2018, I gave it a try. I started this unusual quest on a small tributary to the Pemigewasset River (Merrimack River watershed) near North Woodstock, New Hampshire. From there, it was off to the South Branch of the Gale River (Connecticut River watershed), Nineteen-mile Brook (Androscoggin River watershed), the Ellis River (Saco River watershed), then an unnamed stream in the Salmon Falls River/Piscataqua River watershed. It took some amount of research, and a lot of driving for one day, but it is possible! Each beautiful brook trout was caught in a cold stream emanating from a thickly forested mountain or hillside that had been populated by their ancestors for millennia. To be able to fish this many separate streams in one day and catch a native brook trout in each felt like quite a privilege. Considering that we have diminished – but still healthy – native brook trout populations in our region, we are privileged indeed.

With the knowledge that Mr. Mallard has written a beautiful book about these special fish, we will be in for a treat in hearing his talk on March 1st. Hope to see you there!

All the best to everyone. Hope to see you at one of our virtual meetings or a smaller, outside, socially distanced NETU event sometime. As always, please don't hesitate to drop me a line – I would be happy to hear from you. Ben Meade, President

Conservation Kudos

Quietly behind the scenes, action is flourishing. There are 4 active conservation projects underway and the leaders for those projects have been quietly attending to the mundane that is always necessary for great things to happen. It is fitting to constantly recognize the diligence of a few people who carry the load on completing the behind the scenes necessities to successful action.

HOWLETT BROOK RESTORATION

We have two dedicated people moving this project forward. It falls under many names, Hood Pond outlet, Pond Street culvert and the Howlett Brook Restoration, all in Topsfield. They fall under two names; Greg Murrer and Michael O'Neill.

Greg Murrer, our Secretary and legal advisor has been spending hours and hours of his professional time preparing the necessary forms to gain permits and grant money for this project. Because of rules outside our control, the project has blossomed into a major project. Something that may reach \$400,000 to complete. Regardless, Greg maintains a steady keel and without complaint, focuses on what needs to be done and when it needs to be completed. We're talking hundreds of hours of tedious reading of the fine print and actually understanding it.

Mike O'Neill is our resident civil engineer. He designed the culvert replacements at Lockwood Lane in Boxford and engineered the Middleton Road bridge. He has been chief reviewer of the Pond Street culvert replacement and has supplied the existing conditions survey and plan. Again, he invests many hours on our behalf to make fishing better.

To date, they have contributed over 160 hours of professional time into this project.



Mike O'Neill and Greg Murrer at Pond Street culvert

HELP THREE RIVERS STOCKING ASSOCIATION

Rick Hutchins and his friends at Three Rivers Stocking Association provide a wonderful fall and winter fishery in your backyard with the blessings of the State of New Hampshire but out of their own pocket. If you enjoy the fishing at these rivers, you may wish to send them a donation for their efforts.

Contact them at:

<https://threeriversstocking.com/2020-fundraising-drive>

JEWELL MILL. MILL RIVER ROWLEY

The lead at the Mill River in junction with help from others is Chett Walsh. Chett has maintained a close working relation with the owners of the Jewell Mill Dam in Rowley. The latest project is to install a counting board in the bottom of the Mill River to count migratory herring in the Spring. Chett is designing a composite white board that will be embedded into the river bottom. If you know Chett, it will be a work art.



Chett making a point.

WILLOWDALE DAM FISH LADDER

Keeping the fish ladder at Willowdale Dam on the Ipswich River is a constant effort. Chett Walsh developed and built new flash boards to adjust the flow for conditions that suit migratory fish the best, no more than 5 feet per second. The Chapter has hosted a number of work days cleaning out this fishway and managing the boards. Of late, Kalil Boghdan and Bob Torkildson have stepped in to keep an eye on the fish ladder and offer muscle to keep it working.



Kalil, Bob and Chett comparing notes.

VOLDEMORT

For those not familiar with Harry Potter adventures, Lord Voldemort is "He, who can not be named." This is a code name for our sensitive project helping restore a stream that still has native brook trout. Geof Day, Board member and Executive Director of The Sea-Run Brook Trout Coalition, brought this project to our attention and keeps us up to speed how we can help the stream and fish. Lately, the Chapter wrote a letter opposing a development project that is designed too close to the stream and would stress available water supply to the stream.



Geof with a trout

MassWildlife Considering Increasing License Fees

MassWildlife is seeking input from anglers, hunters, trappers, and other interested members of the public and has scheduled three virtual information sessions on March 4, 6, and 9, 2021 that will include a short presentation and an opportunity for discussion.

As you may have heard, for the first time since 1996, MassWildlife is considering an increase in freshwater fishing and hunting license fees. Over the past 25 years, we've been able to maintain high quality services and programs through the responsible management of funds without raising fees. But with inflation up nearly 67% since 1996; increased agency responsibilities; and steadily increasing state-mandated costs, revenue has not been meeting expenses for several years. As a volunteer in our program your feedback is important. MassWildlife encourages you and other interested members of the sporting community to attend one of these sessions to learn more about MassWildlife's programs, how MassWildlife is funded, and why a license increase is needed. After the presentation, you will have an opportunity to ask questions and to provide feedback. You can also provide comments by using an online form or by mail to: MassWildlife Re: License Fee, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581.

Information Sessions Schedule

- Thursday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. Join the Zoom session using your computer, tablet, or smartphone by clicking this link with Passcode SghJ6i, or you can join by phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and entering the Meeting ID: 894 4078 3155 and Passcode: 464676 when prompted.
- Saturday, March 6 at 10 a.m. Join the Zoom session using your computer, tablet, or smartphone by clicking this link with Passcode Vv0kX6, or you can join by phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and entering the Meeting ID: 896 0545 9093 and Passcode: 578518 when prompted.
- Tuesday, March 9 at 6:30 p.m. Join the Zoom session using your computer, tablet, or smartphone by clicking this link with Passcode u5S0rA, or you can join by phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and entering the Meeting ID: 841 5314 1920 and Passcode: 564737 when prompted.

We hope you can attend. You can find more details at: mass.gov/masswildlife-funding and please feel free to share this information with others in your network.

Thank you,

Susan Langlois

Hunter Education Program Administrator
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
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p: (508) 389-7824 | e: Sue.Langlois@mass.gov
mass.gov/masswildlife | facebook.com/masswildlife

Thank you Fred Jennings for bringing this issue to our attention.

Fishing Local - submitted by Kalil Boghdan

"Fishing the Penobscot River in Lincoln, ME for Smallmouth Bass"

I have had the opportunity to fish the Penobscot river for small mouth bass on numerous occasions. Over the past several years I have enjoyed staying at Eagle Lodge and Camps on Folsom Lake in Lincoln, ME. This camp was first introduced to me by fellow Nor'East Tu chapter member and friend, David McCauley. It is owned and operated by Justine and Loraine Morse. There are five very comfortable cabins that overlook Folsom Lake. You can either bring your own food to cook, or you can enjoy meals prepared by Justine and Loraine.

Some photos follow of my fishing experiences there in a jet powered drift boat, a Penobscot River canoe, or by wade fishing the river. I hope this gives you an appreciation of what Eagle Lodge and Camps has to offer.

Kalil Boghdan





The cabins overlook Folsom Lake



A Penobscot River canoe - very stable and comfortable.



Kalil Boghdan with a nice smallmouth.



Kenny Washburn hooked up



Kenny Washburn wade fishing the river.



David McCauley wade fishing a quiet section.



Dolores and Kalil Boghdan in friendly competition.



Dolores Boghdan with a beauty she caught.

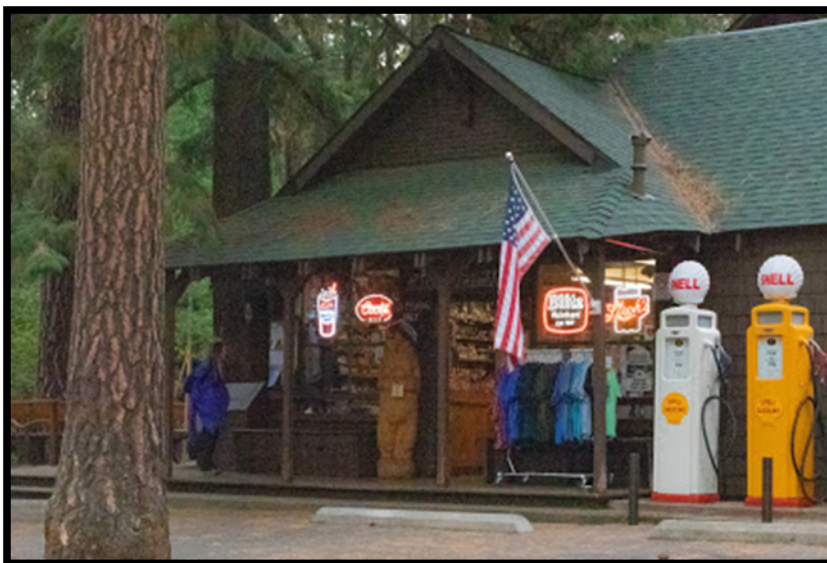


Kevin McCauley with a very nice smallmouth wade fishing a section I call "Pebble Beach."

Fishing Afar - submitted by Greg Murrer

OREGON'S METOLIUS: THE RUBIC'S CUBE OF TROUT STREAMS

By: Greg Murrer



Camp Sherman, Oregon General Store

Eighty miles due east of Corvallis Oregon lies the tiny town of Camp Sherman. Its quaint country store, which is occasionally open, is a throwback to a bygone era. It also sits near the headwaters of one of the most intriguing trout streams of the West (or anywhere else for that matter). The Metolius is a spring creek, but the word "creek" does not do it justice. This is a free flowing river that finds its origins on the windward side of the Cascade Mountains. Although much of the surrounding landscape is technically high desert, a massive spring emerging from the

leeward side of the Cascades just south of Camp Sherman supplies the River with a constant flow of water that remains in the range of 48°F - 54°F throughout the year. Additional springs feed the River as it courses 25 miles north and then east to Lake Billy Chinook. Near Camp Sherman you will find a path that leads to an observation area where you can witness the charging flow of spring water emerging from the base of the mountains, sourced from the abundant snowmelt on the far side of the Cascades that constantly replenishes the aquifer.



Metolius Native Redside

Much of the upper portion of the Metolius lies in parkland (Camp Sherman Campground), providing easy access. Many locals fish it from the banks and never enter its cool waters. Much of the River is fly fishing only, barbless hooks and until very recently, no weight was permitted to be added to a fly line. There are seasonal restrictions, no guiding is allowed and all fish are natives. The state does not stock the River although it maintains a large hatchery (Wizard Falls Fish Hatchery) along the River taking advantage of the pure, cold waters.

The Metolius is an entomological marvel. With its near constant water temperature whether in the heat of the high desert summer or cold of Oregon winters, insects of all types are constantly active. On a given day it is not unusual to witness several hatches occurring simultaneously. Having fished it in both May and September, I have seen this phenomenon many times which presents an interesting challenge for the fly fisherman. The native reddsides, rainbow and brown trout have very short attention spans and can change their tastes in a matter of minutes. They are also selective (i.e. lazy) feeders given the vast smorgasbord of what they have to choose from, preferring in many cases to sip cripples instead of healthy midges, mayflies, stoneflies or caddisflies that they have learned may alight quickly and are not worth the chase. With a year-round feast, the natives are big, beautiful and plentiful.



Most famous for a Green Drake hatch that occurs in May and June, you can see the Metolius boil with feeding trout ---but only for a brief period of 20 minutes--- before they gouge themselves and direct their attention to other food sources. Fishing this River is unlike the challenges presented on western spring creeks in Montana's Paradise Valley like Armstrong's, Nelson's or DuPugh's, where 12' leaders and 7x tippets are the order of the day and precise presentations are essential to fool trout that seem to have PhDs in identifying imitations of the real thing. Rather, the challenge of the Metolius is being very observant, having the right fly at the right time and a willingness to change quickly. A 7' leader will do with a

5x or 6x tippet. The only safe way to decide which flies to bring is to check with the fly shop in nearby Sister's Oregon (The Fly Fisher's Place) whose guides (without clients) regularly fish the Metolius.

Czech nymphing the Metolius can be very effective, but again with the variety of insect life, selection and a willingness to experiment is critical to success. All of that said, the rule of thumb on this River is that first time fly fishers are lucky if they land one decent redside in a day of fishing. That, of course, does not rule out dumb luck or good advice from the locals. If you like casting large red and white streamers, you might try for one of the Metolius' bull trout which can run up to 12 pounds. If that's the case, "you're gonna need a heavier rod" and leader.



Quigley's Film Critic: Green Drake Cripple

Thanks to Ben, Kalil and Greg for submitting all the newsletter content. Great job!

Last cast: Who is in charge of the store, as it were.

President – Ben Meade

Vice President – Resume builder (put your name here)

Treasurer – Peter Vandermeulen

Secretary – Gregory Murrer

Directors:

Kalil Boghdan

Geof Day

James Goodhart

Geoff Klane

Fred Jennings

Tom Leahy

Mike O’Neill

Bob Torkildsen

Chett Walsh

David Walsh

Ken Washburn

Committees

Conservation Committee Chair: Chett Walsh

Meeting Programs Chair: Kalil Boghdan

Meeting Dinner Committee Co-Chairs: Ken Washburn, Mike O’Neill

Banquet Committee Co-Chairs: Kalil Boghdan, Bob Torkildsen

Newsletter Editor: Jim MacDougall, pro tempore

Webmaster: Geof Day

Contact Chapter at info@tunoreast.org