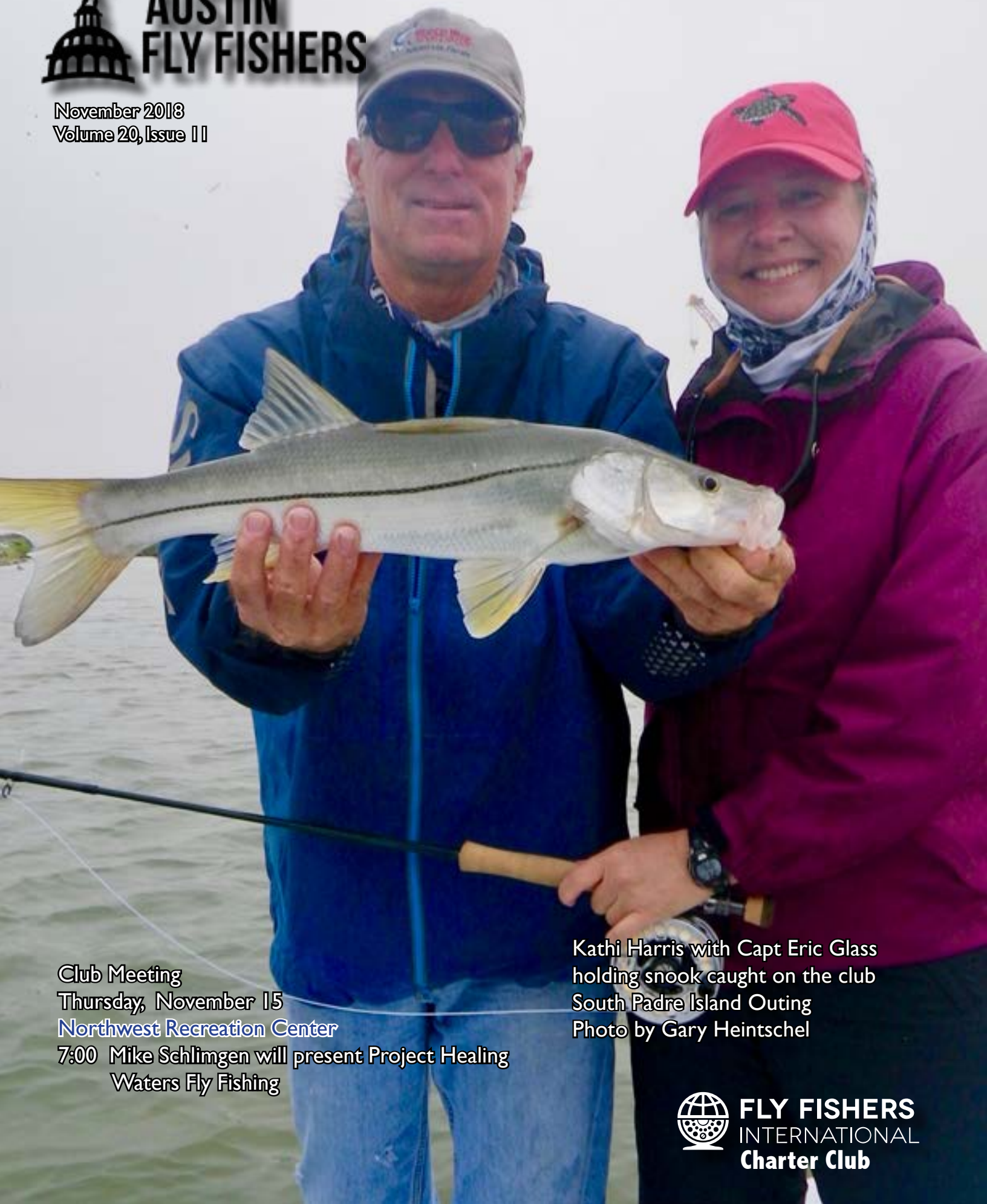




AUSTIN FLY FISHERS

November 2018
Volume 20, Issue 11



Club Meeting
Thursday, November 15
Northwest Recreation Center
7:00 Mike Schlingen will present Project Healing
Waters Fly Fishing

Kathi Harris with Capt Eric Glass
holding snook caught on the club
South Padre Island Outing
Photo by Gary Heintschel



FLY FISHERS
INTERNATIONAL
Charter Club

President's Message **Shawn Riggs**

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Shawn Riggs

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Newsletter

Nils Pearson

Outings

Dave Bush

SKIFF

Dave Hill

Manuel Pena

Webmaster

Brandon Rabke

Directors at Large

Doug Kierklewski

Jeff Hoelter

To contact officers:

Info@AustinFlyFishers.com

I absolutely love this time of year when the mercury drops in the thermometer and the temperatures outside actually start to reflect the seasons listed on the months of the calendar hanging inside. It really makes me want to get out there and experience everything Mother Nature has to offer. This is the window in Texas for me where camping, hiking, hunting and especially fishing can be enjoyed at a leisurely pace without the possibility of heat stroke or dehydration.

I have been invited on quite a few weekend angling outings in recent months. Unfortunately, due to my prior commitment of coaching my son Hudson's baseball team, I have had to decline every single one of them! There was a trip to the lower Guadalupe River to try to find some holdover Rainbow Trout, a quick jaunt on Onion Creek in Buda targeting Largemouth Bass, and a short excursion with my brother-in-law Brad

out to Devils River for three days taking a drift boat with a motor up this pristine river and then drifting back to Lake Amistad fishing the whole way down. I have been wanting to do a Devils River trip for quite some time so turning that one down really pained me. It seems that the stars never seem to align for me to go on that bucket list outing. I wish I could have taken any one of these opportunities to get my fly wet (in all honesty I wish I could have made all of them) and wrote up a good story or two for you to read about in the newsletter but it wasn't meant to be.

I will say that yesterday my son's team played the last ball game of the Fall season so I now can put my coaching whistle away and grab my fly rod and wait for the next phone call inviting me to go on another angling trip. This time I have no excuses. I wait patiently by the phone.

Financial Report

by Jim Robinson

9/1/2018 - 9/30/2018

Begin Bal. Checking \$15,193.36
Income:

Dues AFF FFI	<u>\$251.58</u>
Total Income	\$251.58

Disbursements:

SKIFF	\$2,571.89
Ryan Shaper	<u>\$150.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$2,721.89

Net	(\$2,470.31)
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Unencumbered:	\$7,345.22
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Encumbered Funds:

Casting for Recovery	\$00.00
SKIFF	\$5,377.83

Ending Bal-Checking \$12,723.05



Capt. Eric Glass with Ladyfish

SKIFF Receives Donations by Manuel Pena

In May of 2009 SKIFF became an officially sponsored program of the Austin Fly Fishers. The Skiff Program has made it possible for 429 military children to take a free professionally guided fishing trip with Bob Maindelle. Skiff is a simple program, but it relies on two things, the efforts of Bob Maindelle and the generosity of others.

The Austin Fly Fishers would like to express our appreciation to the Sun City Rod and Gun Club and the McBride Conservation Fund Foundation for their generosity. Both groups have made donations of \$1000 to the Skiff program in the past month

The Austin Fly Fishers would also like to thank Bob Maindelle for his continued efforts to help the military families in the Fort Hood area. Our club is very fortunate to be associated with such a special and caring person. Thank you, Bob.



Dave Hill receives donation from McBride Foundation

November Presentation –Project Healing Waters

Mike Schlimgen will present Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing at our November 15th meeting. He will answer your questions and provide assistance to help you start a PHWFF program in Austin.

In 2005, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing began as an opportunity for injured active duty, and disabled veterans, to experience the healing benefits of fly fishing. Since then, over 200 programs have been established. Last year alone, over 8,000 disabled veterans were served, with 3,500 volunteers from around the country. See phwff.org for details.

Each PHWFF program is supported by a local FFI or TU fly fishing club. The club designates a Program Lead, and funds are made available for start up equipment and training supplies. The four key elements of each program are: Fly Tying - Rod Building - Casting - Outings

In addition to physical injuries, our military veterans often experience PTS and TBI. These are unseen, but very real injuries. Being included in a fly fishing community, and engaging in fly fishing activities, has been proven to help veterans with their successful transition to civilian life. Some of our participants report that they are alive today because of PHWFF.

The Austin area is home to thousands of disabled veterans.

We will help you to reach out to them.

It is a Win - Win



SKIFF Program by Bob Maindelle



WHO WE SERVE: When S.K.I.F.F. (Soldiers' Kids Involved in Fishing Fun) was first established in May of 2009, the program focused on offering fishing trips, free of charge, to the children of deployed soldiers. As success in fundraising grew, and the number of deployed troops tapered off in Iraq, AFF was able to expand the scope of eligible S.K.I.F.F. trip recipients to include children whose parents were pulled away from home for any duty-related reason.

Currently at Fort Hood, deployments to Poland, South Korea, Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Iraq top the list of foreign locations our troops are sent to. However, ongoing, long-term training also takes place routinely at the National Training Center (NTC) in Fort Irwin, California, and at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Fort Polk, Louisiana. Additionally, troops are sent to other posts for weeks at a time for schooling and professional development in what are called a temporary duty (TDY) assignments.

ON THE WATER WITH THE REED BOYS: Since our last monthly update, S.K.I.F.F. put three more youngsters on the water, this time on Lake Belton in

pursuit of white bass. On the morning of Saturday, October 13th, Evan (age 10), Colin (age 8), and Carson (age 6) came aboard just after a pre-dawn round of thunderstorms cleared the Lake Belton area moving from south to north.

The boys' father, U.S. Army Master Sergeant Bryan Reed, has served in the military police branch for over 22 years. He has been deployed seven times during his career with his most recent tour taking him to South Korea, where he has been sent two previous times. MSG Reed's other deployments included tours to Iraq, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Egypt, and Kuwait.

The morning's weather was very unsettled with dark, grey skies, occasional drizzle, and gusty winds. The fish were a bit more challenging to come by, but thanks to the help of a hungry osprey we spotted diving for food, we got a break and quickly put 22 fish in the boat, including one hybrid striped bass and 21 white bass. We initially caught these fish using downriggers, but then switched over to a vertical jigging approach once we saw fish were congregated on and near bottom in this area.

After the action at this area dissipated, we continued our search, finding one more group of fish in about 27 feet of water on a sloped bottom facing toward the stiff SE wind. We added another 12 fish to our tally here, taking our trip sum to a final total of 34 fish landed.

By 11:00am, Colin and Carson had played out, although I think Evan could have stuck with me for another 4 hours. Thank you for donating to S.K.I.F.F. so outings like this can continue to become a reality for our military's children.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO RIDE ALONG: AFF members are welcome to join me on my guide boat as I work with youngsters through the S.K.I.F.F. program. Simply contact me by phone or text at 254.368.7411 or by email at Bob@HoldingTheLineGuideService.com to let me know of your interest. I'll contact you each time a S.K.I.F.F. trip is booked until you are able to come along. Plan on bringing your fishing license so you can be "hands-on" in helping make the kids successful.

South Padre Island Outing 2018

by Nils Pearson

Our South Padre Island outing had been scheduled for October 14 to 20. Unfortunately, we had to push back our dates a couple of days because of bad weather. Even with the change, we had very difficult conditions. So, as is often the case, we made the best of a couple of days on the water.

Kathi Harris, Gary Heintschel, Steven Turner, Brandon Rabke, and I got in a couple of days on the water with over-cast skies, gusting winds, and dirty water that made sight casting to redfish next to impossible. Things were so bad that of the 7 days we had scheduled to fish with Capt. Eric Glass, weather permitted only 2 days with him.

Kathi and Gary fished with Capt. Eric on Saturday. They traveled down the Brownsville ship channel to blind cast for snook. As always, Eric had a couple of good spots to find these beautiful fish. The only problem was that the ladyfish were also congregating in the same place. As feisty as ladies are, they are a bloody mess to get unhooked. Their ultra-aggressive pursuit of flies was one of the biggest obstacles to hooking up snook. Nonetheless, Gary and Kathi hooked up over a dozen snook before attempting to find redfish later that day.

Brandon and I took leisurely start to our Saturday fishing waiting for the wet weather to abate. We drove down to the bridge connecting San Martin lake to the Brownsville ship channel. Upon arrival, we saw Steven in his kayak. True to form, in spite of the weather, Steven had been fishing since daybreak. He had located snook on the lake side of the bridge and was hooking up all morning. Before long, Brandon and I launched his 2-man kayak and paddled over to Steven. Brandon immediately



©Gary Heintschel with snook

PINS cont.

began hooking up snook also. I wasn't so lucky.

After a short while, Brandon and I decided to explore a couple of inlets to San Martin Lake in the hopes of finding clear water and redfish. After a long paddle and exploring a couple of tight channels, we only found murky water and spotted no reds. That being the case, we returned to the bridge and both caught more than our fair share of snook.

In spite of the miserable conditions, we all caught fish, shared evening meals, and enjoyed our time on SPI. Hopefully, next year's outing will have better



Brandon with snook



Nils with snook



Kathi Harris with a little Jack

Club Sponsors

The following individuals who made presentations to our club in 2017/2018. Please follow the links to get more information on the services they provide. You won't be disappointed.

Marcus Rodriquez – <http://livingwatersflyfishing.com/> Central Texas Guide

Capt. Billy Trimble – <http://trimbleflyfishing.com/> Fly Fishing Rockport/Texas Coastal Bend

Chris Johnson – <http://livingwatersflyfishing.com/> Living Waters Fly Shop and Central Texas Guide

Pat Dorsey – <http://www.bluequillangler.com/> Fly Fishing Colorado

Capt. Scott Hamilton – <http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/> Fly Fishing Florida's Atlantic Coast

Capt. Eric Glass – <http://www.captainericglass.com/> Fly Fishing South Padre Island

Kevin Stubbs – <http://www.expedition-outfitters.net/> Fly Fishing the Devils River

Kevin Hutchison – <http://hillcountryflyfishers.com/> Fly Fishing the Hill Country

Capt. Steve Soulé – <http://www.theshallowist.com/index.asp> Fly Fishing Galveston

Jeff Davis – <http://allwaterguides.com/jeff-davis/> Fly Fishig the lower Colorado River

Jud Cole – <http://centraltexasflyfishing.com/> Central Texas and Colorado

Capt. Rus Schwausch – <http://www.epicanglingadventure.com/> Fly Fishing Southwest Alaska

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Capt. Billy Trimble
Shallow Water Flats Fishing
Texas Coastal Bend

<http://trimbleflyfishing.com/>
361-205-1266



Capt. Scott Hamilton
Fly Fish Jupiter, Florida

[http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/
blueh20fly@aol.com](http://www.flyfishingextremes.com/blueh20fly@aol.com)



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Capt. Fred Lynch
Fly Fish Corpus Christi

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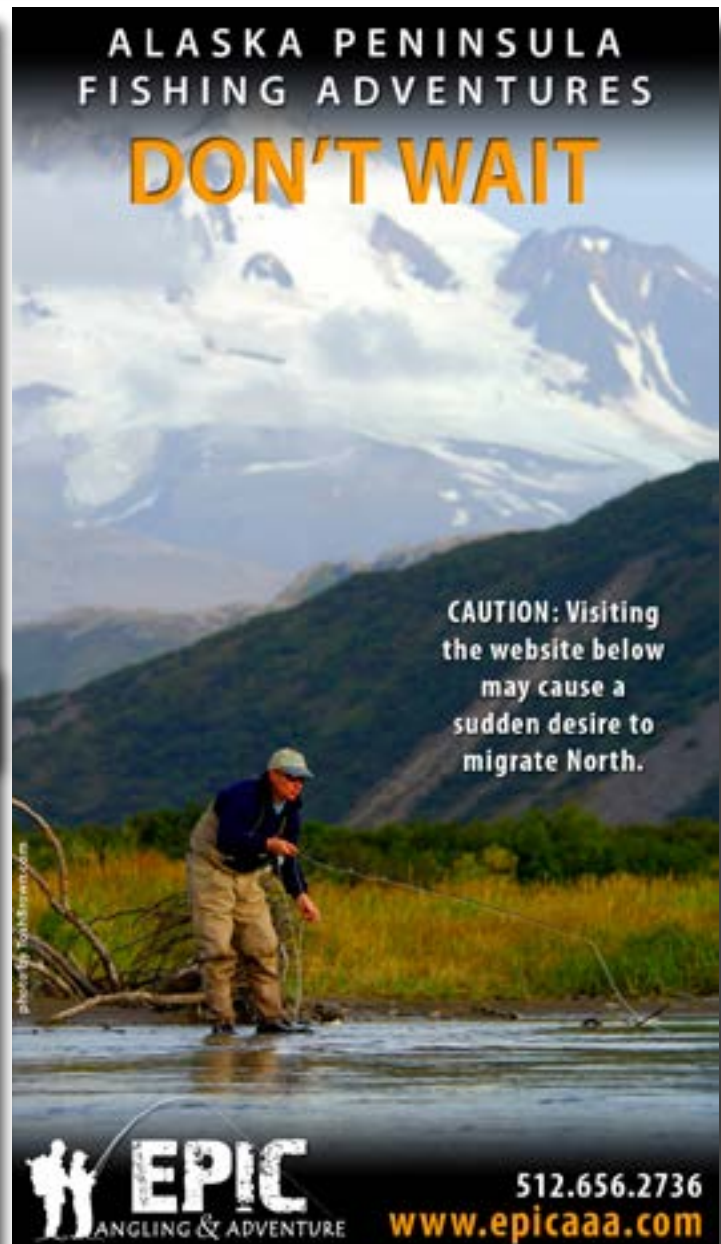
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