

## Fishing Lac Descayrac In Northern Quebec

Submitted by Orman Hines

On Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 AM Paul Heinold, Dick Soucy, Wil Vachon, and I met at Smitty's house in Bowdoinham and I began a two day drive to Labrador City with a stop in Skowhegan to pick up Doug McPike we made it up the northern side of the Saint Lawrence River to Baie Comeau the first day. Arriving in Labrador City Friday afternoon we found accommodations in a local hotel. The next morning Saturday we flew into Descayrac Camps. After stowing our gear and gassing up the boats we made

brookie for their efforts. Wil and Doug checked out the southern most outlet.

Back at camp we all settled in for a great meal prepared by Dick and Smitty before we left home. The camp's dining room kitchen building looks out over a sandy beach and the lake river system which flows westward into the Caniapiscau system. There are two bunk houses at Descayrac one which holds six and another which hold four people. Each building is insulated as they do some caribou hunting in the area. The camp has been recently upgraded with a hot shower and flushes by the new owner François Jinchereau.

On Sunday Paul and I fished two of the northern inlets one of which has a nice set of rapids running for a good half mile or more. We landed several nice brookies and Paul caught and released a nice three pounder. We don't generally keep any of the big brookies as they are one of the major attractions this area. There are usually plenty of pike and lakers to fill the larder although this year the fishing in general was slower than in past years, possibly because the water temperature was up to 57 degrees. We were able to catch a couple small lakers on the way back to camp which made for some tasty hors d'oeuvres.



A northern Quebec Brook Trout

Early on Tuesday morning four of us set off for a twenty mile trip to the out post camp. This trip includes two portages down river one of a half mile and the other of three quarters of a mile, at the end of each portage boats are stored with motors and gas so we only had to lug our fishing gear and gas lines. Of course we forgot to take a gas line on the longest portage, luckily the youngest and most fit Paul made a quick return trip for the gas line. That afternoon we fished the large rapids below the out post camp everyone hooking several brookies most of which were on the small side. Not really what we had hoped for or what had happened in previous years as this had been a major producer of large brookies. Maybe the large black bear that Wil and Dick saw has been eating all the big ones? Even so fed on suc-

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### More Big Fish Stories Told

at the First General Membership Meeting of the 08-09 MMBTU Year  
6-9 PM, Tuesday, September 9  
Graziano's Restaurant, Lisbon

our first forays in three different directions. As I recall Paul and I fished the outlet set of rapids where we hooked up with several small brookies and Paul landed a nice Ouananiche or Landlocked Salmon, just at the base of the rapids. After a nice acrobatic show we were able to get a picture. Dick and Smitty fished the two inlets across from camp catching a nice four and half pound

## Merrymeeting Bay TU Membership Update



Of the 224 members of MMBTU, 55 receive *Tight Lines* by e-mail. Receiving the newsletter by e-mail saves the chapter the cost of printing and mailing, and comes to you in color rather than black & white. If you are currently receiving the print version of *Tight Lines* and want to receive your copy by e-mail,

### Welcome New Members

Richard Bronvillette, Auburn  
David Capuano, Brunswick  
Shelley Collins, Bath  
Arthur Donnelly, Leeds  
William End, South Freeport  
Todd Garth, New Harbor  
Leon Gorman, Yarmouth  
Greg Johnson, Harpswell

John Kaleczyc, Lewiston  
Larry Lauze, Lewiston  
Don Lawson-Stopps  
Christopher Legard, Muskegon, MI  
Maxwell Lester, Topsham  
Devin Libby, Lisbon  
Stephen McManus, Auburn  
Bobbi Nichols, Bowdoin  
Scott Overbey, Brunswick  
Herbert Paris, Brunswick

Glenn Parkinson, Freeport  
David Peppard, Richmond  
Donald Rahn, Topsham  
Seat & Laura Reed, Trevett  
Carolyn Sanders, Sabattus  
Tom Settlemire, Yarmouth  
Mark Sleeper, Woolwich  
Brian Smith, Bowdoinham  
Herb Triehy, Cumberland  
Daniel Willertz, Brunswick

Continued From Page One

culent small brookies cooked in bacon fat that evening, what a treat! The next morning we started back to the main camps fishing the rapid on both sides as we made our way upstream. Again no lunkers were caught just few small fish. That evening we were treated to a spectacular double rainbow and some of Smitty's Sockeye Smoked Salmon yum!

Thursday after a slow start Wil Vachon and I fished one of the southern outlets. Wil caught several fish near the end of the rapids but no lunkers. On the way back to camp we trolled for lakers without any success although the fish finder said they were right under our boat. Dick and Smitty fished the other outlet and did quite well from the southern shore line. That evening Francois flew in and Will opened a special bottle of wine that we enjoyed around the camp fire on the beach.

Friday Doug and I fished the East inlet opposite the camps we found quite a few small fish that weren't big enough to take our large wooly buggers, this streamer pattern is the major attractor for brookies in the area. As it turned out we were in the wrong entrance to that inlet. Part of the fun of this area is learning and trying the many different areas to fish.

Well, Saturday came all too fast and we were back in Labrador City with not so many big fish tales but a memorable time nonetheless. One night we celebrated an early birthday party for Doug's 70<sup>th</sup>. And no one will let me forget the night I had a leg cramp in my sleeping bag and landed with a thud on the floor; of course there was the mighty hunter McPike, alias Pierre, who finally got his Porkypine.

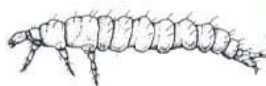


Doug McPike fishes the Descayrac region of northern Quebec.

### Help Wanted

As with many non-profit and volunteer-run organizations, MMBTU is looking for members willing to actively support the Chapter. Attendance at monthly board meetings, September - May, and occasional volunteer hours on various Chapter-run projects throughout the year is required. If you are interested, or think you *might* be interested, in serving as a Board Member, we are interested in hearing from you! Contact any of the board members listed below.

## Attention Fly Tiers of All Abilities: We Need Your Flies!



We need flies for the upcoming Casting To The Future trip to Grand Lake Stream. If you can tie any of the flies listed below, we would greatly appreciate your contribution. Flies need to be in our hands before we leave on Friday, October 10, and we'll be happy to arrange to pickup your flies. Drop an email to Ben Hunsberger ([huns@gwi.net](mailto:huns@gwi.net)) if you plan to tie something for us. And if you can't get them to us before October 10, we'll be glad to take them whenever you get 'em done! We can always use these flies.

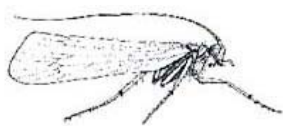
Here's what we need:

Pheasant Tail nymphs, size 14,16,18

Hare's ear nymphs, sizes 14,16,18

Emergent Caddis pupa and larvae, sizes 16,18

Caddis larvae (worm), sizes 16,18



Stone fly nymphs, size 8

Thanks for your efforts!

### About Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited

Merrymeeting Bay TU Chapter 329 serves a membership of 220+ in the mid-coast area of Maine. For more information e-mail: [info@mmbtu.org](mailto:info@mmbtu.org), visit the web site, <http://www.mmbtu.org>, or mail PO Box 191, Richmond, ME 04357.

#### Board of Directors

##### Officers

**Orman Hines, President**

PH: 389-2419

E-Mail: [hineso@suscom-maine.net](mailto:hineso@suscom-maine.net)

**Ron Jack, Vice President**

PH: 207-666-3464

E-Mail: [axidentrecon@aol.com](mailto:axidentrecon@aol.com)

**Dick Soucy, Secretary**

PH: 627-7399

E-Mail: [rsoucy@maine.rr.com](mailto:rsoucy@maine.rr.com)

**Gordon "Smitty" Smith**

Treasurer, Past President

PH: 737-4447

E-Mail: [hrnrg@verizon.net](mailto:hrnrg@verizon.net)

##### At-Large Members

**Brian Cody**

PH: 721-0881; E-Mail: [bcody@gwi.net](mailto:bcody@gwi.net)

**Lois Cunningham**

PH: 737-4447

E-Mail: [loisc@upcountrymaine.com](mailto:loisc@upcountrymaine.com)

**Terry Estey**

PH: 829-9127

E-Mail: [songbird@maine.rr.com](mailto:songbird@maine.rr.com)

**Jim Smith**

PH: 846-9377

E-Mail: [smlmth@maine.rr.com](mailto:smlmth@maine.rr.com)

Thread isn't something we think much about (usually), but to a Fly Tyer thread is the utmost importance. When I first started tying we didn't have the myriad sources of information we have at our fingertips today. The first fly I tried (emphasis

## Thread



Submitted by Dave Martel

on the word "tried") to tie was an Elk Hair Cadis.....not a terribly difficult fly to tie.

I went out and got the required materials.....including the thread I thought I needed (at least the \*color\*). It turned out to be "Flymaster Plus"....a saltwater thread TOTALLY unsuited to the task at hand. Just a few wraps and my EHC was a

total mess. Discouraging.....to say the least.

I'll try to help you out here. A break-

down of thread; and their uses. For "general" tying (dries; emergers; nymphs; etc. in the #10 to 22 range I'd say I use 8/0 Uni the most.(That's 70 denier in the newer terminology). For Streamers I go with 6/0 Uni (140 denier....or approximately twice as thick as 8/0.....confusing, I know).

For big streamers I'll go with either 3/0 (210 denier) or Flymaster Plus or Uni's Big Fly Fibre. (Mostly Saltwater for Stripers/Blues).

BassBugs: I'll go with #100 or #200 GSP---Gel Spun Polyethylene. Spinning deer hair is a breeze with that stuff. Egg flies, too. You can really crank it down. You'll cut your fingers before you break that stuff.

I've gone over lately for the very small stuff (#20 on down to #26) to Gordon Griffiths 14/0 (VERY thin) or Georggio Bennechi's 12/0 (again...very thin). Both are very strong for their tiny diameters.

I believe the 14/0 Griffiths is actually stronger than 8/0 Uni. That stuff (Gordon Griffiths) only comes (at least to my knowledge) on 100 meter spools (1/2 as much thread as the 8/0 Uni) and costs the same...thereby

twice as expensive; but well worth it to keep down thread build-up.

Hopefully this elementary primer will help you sort through the sometimes confusing world of fly tying threads. Enjoy.



## Stream Survey of Purinton Brook in Bowdoin Set For September 6-7

Submitted by Lois Cunningham

Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited is assisting the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife with a stream survey of Purinton Brook, located off Bowdoinham Rd. in Bowdoin, ME. Fisheries Research Biologist Merry Gallagher is heading up the training session on September 6 and the survey on September 7, with a rain date for the survey on September 14.

The training session begins at 10:00 am on September 6 and lasts about two to three hours. It will be held in the classroom on the second floor of the Town Office/Library building, at 13 School Street in Bowdoinham. From I-295, take the ME-125/ME-138 exit, Exit 37, toward Bowdoinham/Bowdoin. Go east on ME-125/ME-138/Main St. toward Bowdoinham. Continue to follow ME-125. Turn right onto School St. Turn right into the parking lot just past the big white church.

For the survey itself, Merry plans on dividing surveyors into two groups – the upstream and downstream crews. There is an upstream access site by way of an ATV trail. A 4 x 4 truck can use this trail to get to about a 1/4 mile from the stream. The upstream crew will walk to the stream from there. An ATV could also be used to shuttle the upstream crew members and gear to the stream if one is available. The upstream section is about a mile

to 1.5 miles in length to a point by a gravel pit. The downstream crew will start at the gravel pit and head to the bottom deadwater at the confluence with Bowdoinham Rd (about another 1.5 mile stream section).

Crew members should wear appropriate clothing to get wet and foot wear should be either a pair of well soled shoes that will get wet (an old pair of tennis shoes are usually OK) or a pair of wading boots (felts are fine). Each

crew will probably encounter some deadwater/mud areas. So, be prepared for that. People may also want to dress to avoid ticks. In-depth planning for the actual survey will take place during training on Saturday.

This stream survey is part of a state-wide project, which is part of the national Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture project. MMBTU supports the EBTJV with volunteer hours and funding.

For more information on Merrymeeting Bay Trout Unlimited, visit <http://www.mmbtu.org> and for more information on the EBTJV visit <http://www.easternbrooktrout.org>.

The general public, MMBTU members, friends, and family, including youth able to negotiate a 1.5 mile of stream are welcome to participate. For more information on the stream survey or to sign up, contact Lois Cunningham at [info@mmbtu.org](mailto:info@mmbtu.org) or call 737-4447.



Data collected will be used for the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Project.

## Events: 2008-09 MMBTU Year

The general membership and the general public are welcome at all meetings including Directors' Meetings. General Membership Meetings are held on the second Tuesday, and Board Meetings are held the 4th Tuesday, at Graziano's Restaurant, Lisbon, Maine, , 6-9 pm, unless noted. Phone: 353-4335.

**September 9: Big Fish Stories.** Also: Slate of Officers

**September 23: Board Meeting**

**October 10-13: Casting to the Future at Grand Lake Stream.** See article page 2. Contact Ben Hunsberger for more information: [huns@gwi.net](mailto:huns@gwi.net)

**October 28: Board Meeting** Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!

**November 11: CTTF & Purinton Brook Stream Survey Report.** Also: Elect Officers

**November 25: Board Meeting** Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!

# Big Fish Stories

& Slate of Officers

**6-9 PM, Tuesday, September 9**

Graziano's Restaurant, Lisbon, ME

**December 9: Holiday Party & Gift Exchange**

**December 23: Board Meeting** Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!

**January 13: Fishing Out West** with Dick Soucy.

**January 29: Board Meeting** Come, get involved, help out, support the cause, have fun!

**February 10: Fishing for King Salmon in Alaska** with Ron Jack.