

North Fork of the Lewis River Outing
July 10-12, 2020
Fishmasters – Tim and Megan Wickersham

Megan and I are excited to again host the North Fork of the Lewis River outing at Lower Falls Campground in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. This outing provides an excellent opportunity to fish for wild trout on miles and miles of pristine river in a beautiful setting, to include the North Fork Lewis River, Muddy River, Clearwater Creek, Smith Creek, Rush Creek, and Quartz Creek. There are also numerous opportunities for hiking, nature watching, photography, rockhounding, or to just generally have a great time. Bring your favorite 3wt to 5wt fly rod(s), wading boots, and a good wading staff. River temps range anywhere from high 40's at the upper end to upper 50's at the lower end, so plan accordingly. Sunscreen and insect repellent are also recommended.

This year, we'll be scouting out some lake fishing opportunities for those that aren't able to hike in on some of the trails. We will provide access instructions to places like Big Mosquito Lake, Takhlakh Lake, Chain of Lakes, Council Lake, and Blue Lake depending on what we find. If lake fishing sounds like your kind of thing, make sure to bring a float tube. Several lakes are within a 30 minute drive of the campground.

A number of CSF members have already reserved campsites. In the past, we typically had room to squeeze in a few extra tents for those unable to reserve a campsite in time. Please let us know if you want to attend but don't have a site and we'll see who has extra room. It may also be possible to find a first come, first serve campsite in the Upper Loop.

There are two routes to access Lower Falls Campground:

- 1) Take Hwy 503 to Cougar, continue on Forest Road (FR) 90 to Eagle Cliff, turn right at the Pine Creek Ranger Station intersection, and continue on FR90 12 miles to Lower Falls Campground. Check the Gifford Pinchot website for current road conditions, as there is one location where the road caused difficulty for low clearance vehicles and large trailers
- 2) Go to Trout Lake, use FR 23 and drive approximately 20 miles to the FR90 intersection, then drive 17 miles to the Lower Falls Campground entrance. Honestly, this isn't a preferred route as the road continues to deteriorate ever year at higher elevations. But, it's an option.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, 7:00 PM: Fish stories by the campfire at Site 14

Saturday, 8:30 AM: Fishmaster Briefing, places to go (maps of several places to try will be available)

Saturday, 5:00 PM: Wet Fly Hour

Saturday, 6:00 PM: Dinner (Meal TBD, Stuffed Jalapeños guaranteed)

Megan and I will be arriving at Lower Fall Campground the evening of July 4th, so please contact us before this date if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you up there!

Tim: timothy.wickersham@gmail.com ; 785-320-1233

Megan: megwickdvm@yahoo.com ; 785-320-1234