



Welcome Interns!

We are excited to introduce our latest additions to the W&A team. We have had tremendous success with our internship program in the past and anticipate keeping the trend going.



Kennedy GrandPre is a recent graduate from the University of Colorado in Boulder, holding a B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis in accounting and finance. Outside of school, Kennedy enjoys traveling, climbing 14ers, and socializing with friends. Kennedy has plans to teach English in Thailand for a few months before returning to Colorado where she plans to continue her career in wealth management.

Wilson Abshire is a senior pursuing a B.S. in Business Administration at CU Boulder's Leeds School of Business, with an emphasis in finance, leadership, and entrepreneurship. Upon graduation, Wilson plans on further developing a career in wealth management. Outside of school, Wilson enjoys socializing with friends, spending time outdoors and going to as many concerts as possible.



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Fly of the Month · July 2020



Time to put away the split shot and strike indicators. July marks the start of the most consistent dry fly action of the year here in Colorado. The high flows of runoff have faded and insect hatches on both tailwaters and freestones are increasing. Sure, you can still catch fish at the subsurface, but you can do that anytime of year. There is nothing cooler in the wonderful sport of fly-fishing than watching a fish eat a fly on the surface. Results may vary, as often times you will catch fewer fish on dry flies than if you were to nymph fish, but I always tell my clients that a dry fly catch is worth 2 points.

Continue reading inside...



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FLY OF THE MONTH • H&L Variant • SIZE 14

The H & L Variant is a high floating, traditional dry fly that has been fooling trout for more than 60 years. While sharing many characteristics with the Royal Wulff, the muted colors and overstated wings of the H & L Variant allow it to subtly seduce trout to strike while allowing it to match a number of mayfly species across the country.



Dry/Wet: Dry | **Fly Category:** Generalist Pattern

Family: Mayfly | **Species:** Brown Drake, Brown Dun, Hendrickson, Mahogany Dun, & March Brown Mayflies | **Life Stage:** Adult

Welcome to Dry Fly Season

By Danny Frank – Colorado Trout Hunters

In order to catch fish on dry flies, you have to actually fish a dry fly. That may sound obvious, but I talk with many anglers who want to increase their success with dry flies but have a hard time cutting off the nymphs and committing to fishing a fly on the surface. This July, August, and September, do yourself a favor by fishing some flies that float! Here are some tips to help you get the most out of your dry fly endeavors.

1. Floatant vs. Shake- You want your flies to float like a boat all day long? Put on a dry fly floatant (commonly called gink) the night before. Apply this to a few flies you plan to fish the follow day and let them dry completely overnight. The materials of the fly will absorb the gink and become waterproof. Then use dry fly shake during the day to help wick away water from an already wet fly. Many anglers swear by just floatant or just shake, but a combo of both is best.

2. Try drifting downstream- When targeting pressured trout with dry flies, I find more success when drifting straight downstream to the fish. This allows the fly to be the first thing the fish sees. You won't risk lining the fish or spooking it. I like to make a short, downstream cast before aggressively stack mending to allow the fly to drift drag free straight downstream. The hook set here will be a little harder and you will want to wait an extra second before raising the rod, but you will get far more eats from pressured fish while using this technique.

3. Attach your dry flies with a loop knot- You must trust me on this one. When you attach your dry flies using a loop knot (non-slip mono knot is my personal choice) the delicate dry fly will ride more natural and will never ride upside down. Once I started using this technique, I got far more dry fly eats.

4. “God save the Queen!”- The hook set on a dry fly eat should be more delayed than a subsurface eat. You want to watch the fish come up, eat the dry fly, then go back down before setting the hook. The old joke is to say, “God save the Queen” after the fish eats and then set the hook.

5. Fish attractor flies even when no hatch is going on- You can catch fish on dry flies when there is no hatch occurring. Even when I see no trout rising, I will fish just an attractor dry fly like an Amy's Ant, Stimulator, or Chubby Chernobyl in likely holding water and riffles. This time of year, fish are looking up even when no hatch is happening.

6. Consider double dry- I will often fish two dry flies at the same time. One more general attractor or larger terrestrial followed by a smaller more natural pattern. It is important to use plenty of tippet between the two flies to allow them to both drift naturally on the surface. I like to use two feet of 4X fluorocarbon and again, I am attaching the flies with a loop. Many times the larger dry fly will catch the fishes' attention before it rises up and takes the smaller one.



In my opinion there is nothing more exciting in fly-fishing than watching a fish eat your fly on the surface. Commit to fishing a dry fly this July to join in on the fun!