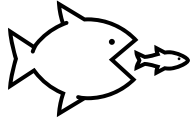


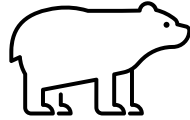
Yellowstone River Intel Center - Home



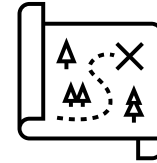
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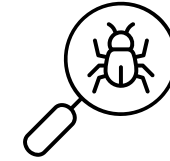
Spring Creeks



Yellowstone
National
Park



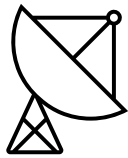
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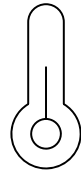
[Weather](#)



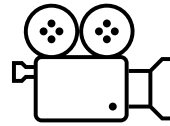
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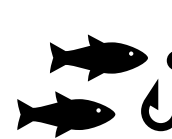
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Yellowstone River Fishing Report – 9/15/23



Weather



Flows



Water
Temps



- The river has cleared after a bit of mud yesterday. The weather's going to be lovely and conditions should be good this weekend.
- Think about helping out with the "Give Back to the Yellowstone River" clean up on Saturday! Then fish on Sunday! It's not going to be warm much longer!
- It seems like the hopper action has slowed a bit with cooling water, but there are still plenty of the naturals bouncing around.
 - Hopper patterns and attractor dries should still be effective as the water warms in the afternoon.
 - Smaller terrestrials (ants, beetles...) and attractor dries ([Stubby Chubby](#), Fat Albert, [Hippie Stompers](#), ...) have been good [droppers](#) off a bigger dry fly.
- Nymphs large and small have been productive as [droppers](#) and under an [indicator](#).
 - Stonefly nymphs – [20 Incher](#), [Rubberlegs](#), etc...
 - Small mayfly nymphs – A #18 or #20 [Pheasant Tail](#), black [Copper John](#), or [Little Spanker](#) should get you hooked up. [Blue-winged olive](#) (baetis) mayflies will start emerging soon, and the nymphs will be active already.
- No great reports of streamer action yet, but the big browns will be getting aggressive as they near the spawn.
 - [Li'l Kims](#), [Sparkle Minnows](#), and [Baby Gongas](#) are favorites that don't necessitate a heavy rod to cast.

Chubby Chernobyl (Dry Fly)

The “Chubby” is a go-to attractor dry that produces all summer on the Yellowstone. It’s available in multiple colors and sizes, and able to hold up a larger dropper nymph.



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Stubby Chubby (Dry Fly)

Based on the ever-popular [Chubby Chernobyl](#), this smaller cousin is a super attractor dry that in different colors might imitate an ant, beetle, caddis, or who knows what.



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Hippie Stomper (Dry Fly)

The epitome of a modern attractor dry – buggy, chunky, enough foam to hold up a decent sized nymph dropper. Available in a bunch of colors, all of which are trout candy. Yum!



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Twenty- Incher (Nymph)

Peacock herl is hard to beat for “bugginess,” and the 20-Incher sure is buggy! A great stonefly imitation that does seem to pick up bigger fish.



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Elk Hair Caddis (Dry Fly)

A true classic, the Elk Hair Caddis belongs in every angler's fly boxes. Different species of caddis emerge all summer on the Yellowstone and the EHC is a go-to dry to imitate them.



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Clown Shoe Caddis (Dry Fly)

I think of this as a caddis surface emerger, with the curved hook causing the back end to dangle below. Regardless, it floats well, is easy to see, and catches fish all summer.



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Double Wing Caddis (Dry Fly)

Buoyant and bushy double hair wing, trailing shuck, sits low in the water. It's hard to ask much more of a caddis dry.



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Pat's Rubberlegs (Nymph)

The Rubberlegs is a simple but deadly stonefly nymph that catches fish all year long. If you don't have them in several colors and sizes, you're missing out. Less is more!



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Psycho Prince (Nymph)

The Psycho Price is a spicy variation on the classic. The orange belly version is a good Yellow Sally (stonefly) nymph. The purple, fish just eat them. A local favorite, the pattern has put plenty of trout in the net on the Yellowstone, its tributaries, and in Yellowstone National Park.



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Perdigon (Nymph)

Adapted from European-style nymphing, the various color variations of the Perdigon sink like a rock, getting your fly in the “zone” right from the start of your drift. They make great dropper nymphs off a hopper or other dry fly. Trout don't always look for verisimilitude in a fly!



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Little Spanker (Nymph)

Born on the Upper Madison, the Little Spanker catches trout all around the area, in streams big and small. Slender but buggy and with a bit of flash, the Little Spanker has been one of our most productive nymphs the last couple of years.



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Pheasant Tail (Nymph)

The classic mayfly nymph, the Pheasant Tail has probably caught more trout than any other fly out there! It imitates mayflies large and small, as well a smaller stoneflies. If you only had one nymph to fish....



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Copper John (Nymph)

The Copper John has become a classic over the years 'cause it just catches fish. The extra weight of the copper wire gets it quickly into the zone. The original copper color still gets it done, and red and black versions are killer!



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Sparkle Minnow (Streamer)

Whether stripped, swung, or drifted under an indicator, the Sparkle Minnow is a go-to streamer on the Yellowstone River and in Yellowstone National Park. The pattern comes in a variety of colors and weights (e.g., beadhead, conehead) and there's a Sparkle Minnow to meet every condition.



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Li'l Kim (Streamer)

The Li'l Kim is one of our favorite smaller streamers for the Yellowstone and in the Park. A relatively simple pattern, but with great movement and just the right amount of flash, it flat out catches fish on the strip or under an indicator.



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Baby Gongga (Streamer)

Want to throw an articulated streamer without having to bust out the 8-weight rod? The Baby Gongga is just the ticket. Wiggly, with a big head to push out vibrations, and lead eyes to get it down, the Baby Gongga puts nice fish in the net. The pale yellow version is a favorite for sunnier conditions.



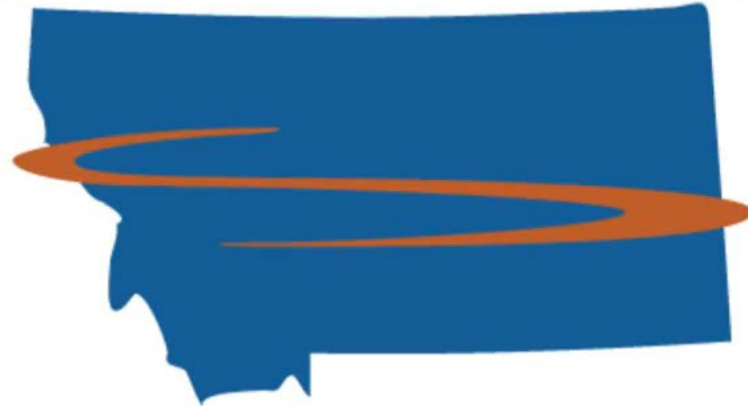
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Dry-Dropper Rigs

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Attaching a Thingamabobber Indicator

SWEETWATER FLY SHOP



— *Livingston, Montana* —

Streamside Tips & Techniques

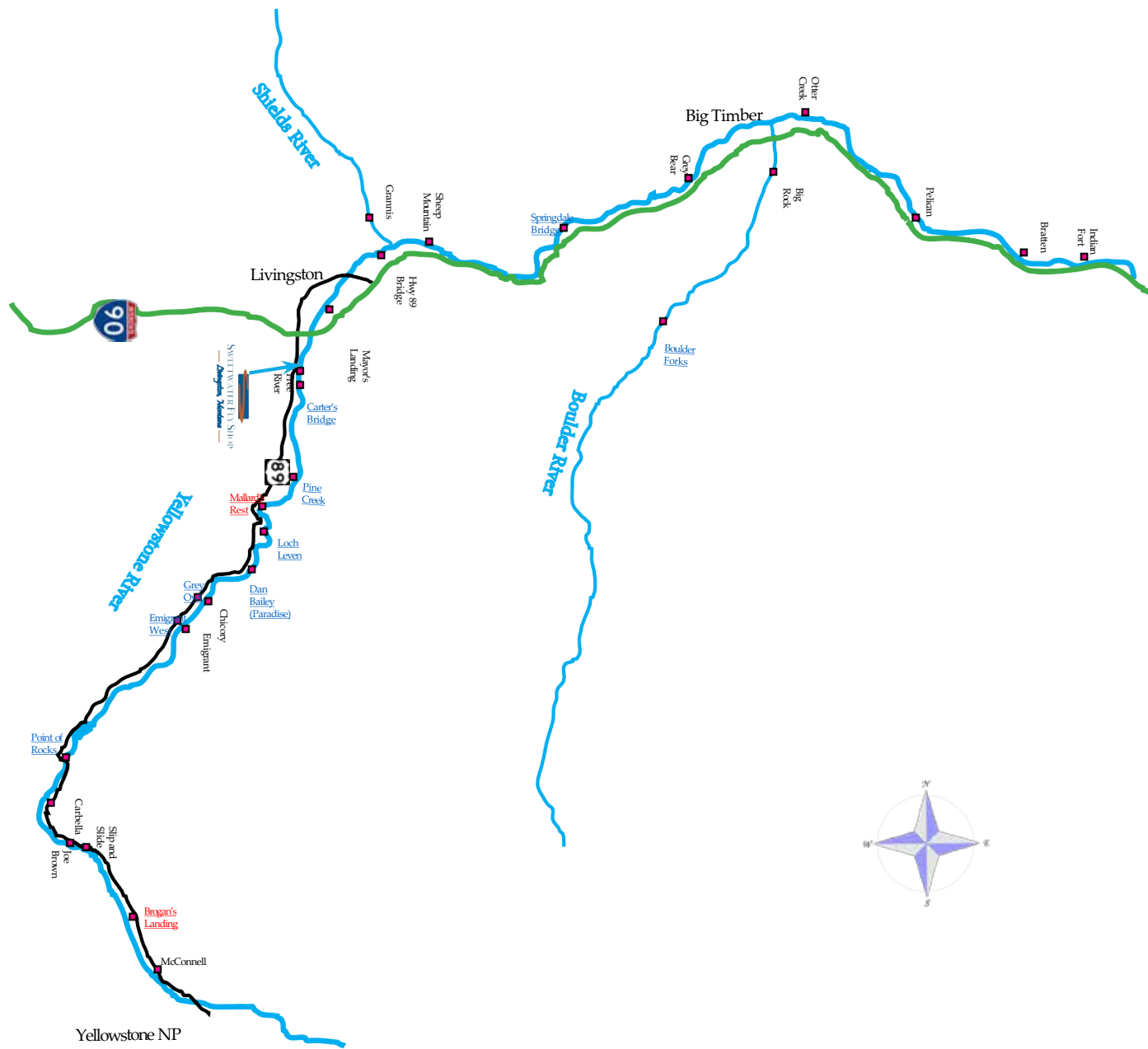
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Yellowstone River Map













Bozeman





Yellowstone River Hatch Chart

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Sizes		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
	Midges 16-24	█		█								█	█
	Baetis 16 to 22			█						█		█	
	Grannom Caddis 14 to 18				█								
	Western March Brown 12 to 14			█									
	Salmon Fly 2 to 8						█						
	Western Green Drake 10 to 12						█						
	Pale Morning Dun 16 to 20						█						
	Golden Stone 4 to 10						█						
	Yellow Sally 12 to 16						█						
	Brown Caddis 12 to 14							█					
	Hoppers 6 to 14							█					
	Beetles 8 to 16						█						
	Ant 12 to 16						█						
	Hecuba 12 to 16								█				
	Trico 18 to 24								█				
	Streamers 2 to 10	█											



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Fish We Catch



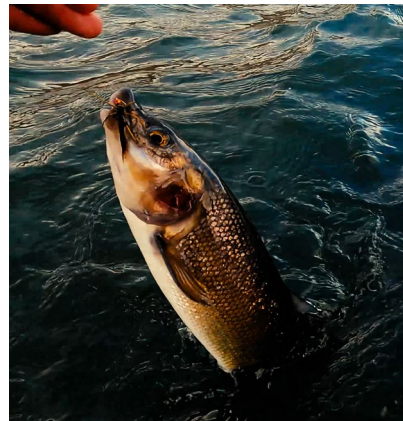
[Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout \(Native\)](#)



[Rainbow Trout \(Introduced\)](#)



[Brown Trout \(Introduced\)](#)



[Mountain Whitefish \(Native\)](#)

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Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout

The Yellowstone Cutthroat is the only native trout in the Yellowstone River. They are precious gems and are listed as “threatened.” By law, all cutthroat must be released unharmed.



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Rainbow Trout

Rainbow Trout are native to the Pacific Coast states, but have been widely introduced. In addition to their beauty, 'bows are renowned for their aerial acrobatics. Rainbow and [Cutthroat Trout](#) are closely related, and produce viable hybrid "cut-bows," fun to catch but unfortunately diluting the genes of the native and threatened Cutthroat.



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Brown Trout

Brown Trout are native to western and northern Europe, but have been introduced across the US and the world. Brown trout are thought to be hard to catch and strong fighters, making them a prized catch. Browns are able to inhabit warmer and more degraded water conditions than other trout species.



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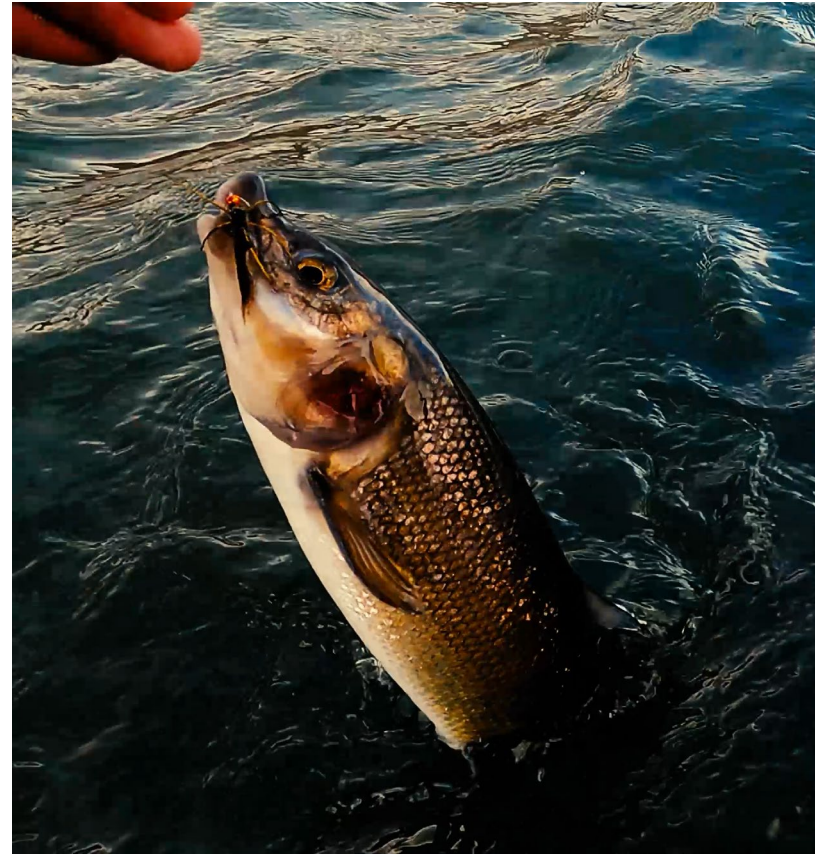
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Mountain Whitefish

The trout's blue-collar cousin makes up in spunk what it lacks in looks. The native "whiteys" are gluttons for small nymphs, but ambitious individuals will go after big hoppers and streamers. Far from a "trash fish," the whitefish is a canary in a coal mine when it comes to water quality and a welcome adversary when the trout won't eat. Love the whitey!



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