

THREE RIVERS FOUR DAY'S

We left the Grand Tetons to continue our adventure. As we traveled to West Yellowstone to go to the Federation of Fly Fishers Fair, we continued to fish throughout Yellowstone National Park. We now turned our site to the Firehole River, Gibbon River and the Madison River.

The first river we hit was the Gibbon. With the least amount of fisherman, we thought our chances would be good. Not knowing what they were biting on we all tied on different flies. After wading across the river many times we came upon a deep pool. In this area of the Gibbon, the river was not very wide so we took turns fishing the pool. After several bits Mike hooked a grayling on a soft hackle. We got one good look before it spit the hook. We continued upstream toward the waterfalls as the weather turned and began to rain heavily. We continued to fish and hooked a few on dries before calling it a day.

After talking to a friend at the local fly shop in West Yellowstone, MT, we followed his suggestion of the Firehole River. We were excited to see that it was similar to the streams we fish in South Dakota. The Firehole was narrow, deep and windie. With thermal springs emitting steam on a cold, rainy morning and Buffalo grazing in the distance it makes for a very unique fishing experience. Soft hackle flies seemed to work the best on a slow day in the Firehole River.

We were glad we saved the Madison River for the last since it turned very cold and snowy as it was the closest to West Yellowstone. Our first stop on the Madison took us to a pool that was loaded with rising fish. We matched the hatch and threw everything we had at these fish for 2 hours. With little success we moved down the river. We fished a few more pools using dries and soft hackles which seemed to be the most productive.

Our next few days were filled with fly tiers, vendor booths and classes. It was good to see old friends and meet new ones.

With the 2013 FFF Fair coming to a close, we said goodbye to Yellowstone National Park. We are already looking forward to next year in Livingston Montana.