Fly Fishing Cherokee

Justin Hunt
EBCI Tribal Waters

- 30 miles of stocked trout waters
- 28 miles of catch & keep waters (general)
- 2.2 miles of fly fishing only catch & release trophy waters
- 3 ponds
- 450,000 plus fished stocked per year
- Tribal owned hatchery
- Requires Tribal Licensing
- Several Tournaments through-out the year
Tribal Catch & Keep Waters

- Requires $10 Daily Tribal Permit
- Approximately 28 miles of stream
- Waters include Oconaluftee River, Soco Creek, Bunches Creek, Raven Fork, and 3 Ponds at KOA Campground
- Stocked weekly
- Great access to the waters
- 10 fish per permit per day creel limit (no size limit)
- Must have signed valid permit on your person while fishing
- 1 hour before sunrise, 1 hour after sunset
- Closed last 2 weeks of March
Fly Fishing Catch & Release Trophy waters

- Requires $10 daily tribal permit and also $25 3-day or $75 annual special use permit
- 2.2 miles of stream
- Raven Fork from Blue Ridge Parkway to River Valley Campground
- Stocked approximately every month to six weeks Oct.-May depending on conditions
- Usually not stocked June - September due to water temperature
- Fly rod & reel only
- Barbless, single hook flies only
- Catch & Release only
Equipment

- **Fly Rod**
  - 8ft-11ft 3wt-6wt

- **Fly Line**
  - Weight forward or double taper

- **Leader / Tippet**
  - Tapered 7.5ft-9ft 3x-7x
  - Euro-nymphing 12ft-18ft
  - Tippet 3x-8x
Flies and Techniques

- Very basic flies mostly size 14-18
- Dry Flies
  - BWO, Adams, Quill Gordon, Light Cahill, EHC, Yellow Sally, Adams Variant, Stimulator
- Nymphs
  - Pheasant tails, Frenchies, Prince nymphs, Hare’s ear, Walts Worm, Quill Body, France Flies, Rubber leg stones
- Streamers
  - Wooly Buggers, Zonkers, Sparkle Minnows, Sex Dungeons, Circus Peanuts
- Junk
  - Mops, Squirmies
Great Smoky Mountain National Park

- Approximately 2900 miles of stream of that only about 20% is large enough to support trout
- GSMNP holds Rainbow, Brown, and Brook Trout. You can also find Smallmouth Bass and Rock Bass
- Open to fishing year round
- Requires North Carolina or Tennessee state fishing license
- Flies or single hook artificials only
- 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset
- Creel limit of 5 Brook, Brown, Rainbow, or Smallmouth must be 7”. You may harvest up to 20 Rock Bass no size limit
GSMNP….

- Much of the water has easy roadside access most of the year
- Much of it is remote and requires hiking to get to
- Great opportunities for backcountry camping
- GSMNP provides the chance to get away from crowds and enjoy the REAL reasons we fly fish
Equipment

- Fly Rod (ideal for bamboo)
  - 6ft-11ft 1wt-5wt

- Fly Line
  - Weight forward or double taper

- Leader / Tippet
  - Tapered 7.5ft-9ft 3x-7x
  - Euro-nymphing 12ft-18ft
  - Tippet 3x-8x

- Tenkara is great in the park
Flies and Techniques

- Very basic flies mostly size 14-18
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- Junk
  - Mops, Squirmies
Beauties of the GSMNP!!!
Brook, Brown, and Rainbow!
Great fishing opportunities in WNC!!
Contact Info

- Rivers Edge Outfitters
  - 828-497-9300
  - www.wncfishing.com
  - info@flyshopnc.com

- Cherokee Fisheries & Wildlife Management
  - 828-359-6110
  - www.FishCherokee.com

- Great Smoky Mountain National Park
  - 865-436-1200
  - https://www.nps.gov/grsm/planyourvisit/fishing.htm
THANK YOU!!!