

Moose Podcast #451

Moose Peterson Howdy, folks, and welcome to Boost Podcast number 451 Just a little practice. I trust you folks are doing well. Had a great weekend. I want to say thank you personally out loud to all you vets, all services, sex, race, creed makes no difference to me. Your service to our country is wonderful. One of the main reasons why we're able to do all the photography, pursue all the things that we do in our world. Thank you every day. I know we honored you just, you know, a couple times a year officially, but I want you to know that every day you're in my thoughts and prayers and thank you so much for your service. This episode of the Moose Podcast is again being recorded using Adobe Podcast with its AI voice, voice enhancement as they call it. You can find the podcast, anything related to it, photograph links on our website. There is a blog post each week for the podcast and at the bottom of the page. You can click on the link to take you to the archive because there are 451 episodes, yikes, that you can search there for trivia because a lot of things photographic It just never changes. It just kind of grows and improves so you can use it as a resource. Remember if you go to Spotify, because Spotify, Amazon, iTunes, you'll see the transcript as well as my blog post. But Spotify, you've got Podcast, you got the transcript and you can leave comments and have a discussion with me. I am more than happy to help any way I can. So remember, that's one of the great places that you can reach out and we can talk. Had a number of emails this week. Always like to know what triggers this stuff, especially on the marketing side. But I had a number of people ask if we do workshops. We do. We call them adventures. Because we do work, we, uh, we, we have it, we go out on our venture. We seek things and most of the time find them and photograph them. But there's no work involved. Believe me, when you have ice cream every day, there's no work involved. It's all pleasure. But what we do, you can find them at the end of the bottom of the page. You'll also find a link, or it's a banner down there, That will take you to the galleries for the different ventures for the last, what, ten years, twelve years? There is a boatload of images there. You can see For yourself, the kind of photographs we take. And if you are interested in joining us, just give the office a call. My beautiful bride, Sharon, will be more than happy to help you, answer your questions, and if it so fits, sign you up. When it comes to a book recommendation, I've got, well, I've got a book recommendation that probably nobody other than maybe two or three, uh, might be interested in. And that's one of the Helms Field Guides, Birds of Ecuador by Juan, should not take my glasses, Juan Fraley and Robin Ristel. Now, why would I use that? Why would I recommend that book? Well, Heading to Eckhart next year. Yep, I can't wait. It'll be my first time. They have 1,300 bird species. Now, they have some common ones, which I would know, uh, by sight, like California gull, uh, which always amazes me how far that little guy can range, because it nests in Mono Lake. But this, uh, 500, no, 500, I'm sorry, 614 page book, 1614 pages, is all about IDing birds, now why do I have that now, a year ahead of time, well. The way that I learned birds originally for North America is I got the old National Geographic guide and I would just... I would go page to page to page every night and look at the birds and look at the name and look at the birds. And I did that. I've done that just for forever. That's how I came to learn. Birds. For the most part. I did have, I mentioned a teacher that made me learn bird identification by habitat and silhouette and movement. But I'm not going to have that luxury of time in Ecuador. So I'm starting off looking at the book. Going through the species that will be in the region that we're going to be

at. And I'm starting to learn their names. And that's a challenge because some of these names aren't like just American Robin. No, they're like, um, Mountain Advocet Bill. I mean, Mountain Velvet Breast, Hore Puff Leg. I'm not making this up, folks. Plain xonops, streak xonops, I mean speckled prickle tail, I mean, I don't know who comes up with these common names. There's some easy ones like yellow brown, uh, ant bird, you know, okay, I can do that one. But then you come back to like, uh, let's see, uh, Black Bill Peppershrike. He's not making this stuff up. Uh, so to get to the point where I can kind of, uh, See what I'm seeing and know what it is that gives me an idea of a little bit of what it might or might not do. I mean, if I come up against a crimson mantled woodpecker, I want to know what it kind of uh, it's not just going after uh, just your basic insect. You got your black-tailed train bearer. Now I want you to think about this. His name is black-tailed train bearer. What kind of bird is that? That's a long-tailed hummingbird. That's what I've got. It's going to take me, you know, I'm sure when I go down in a year, I'll be feeling somewhat prepared, but boy, some of those names, some of those birds, but that's what books are for, to help with learning. I want to thank my good friend of Bedford's Camera, bedfords.com, for all they do as photographers. They've got a bunch going on right now. You know, they've got, uh, well, it's just kind of, it's finishing, uh, yesterday, but I bet you call. Today, he said Moose sent you. They'll take care of you. They have a 25% of all their used gear. Got some other sales going. This is the last week for the Nikon spring sale. It finishes up on the 1st of June. So, you know, you've got prices are kind of important part of the. Photo gear buying equation, but so is finding the right gear and having the right information and having it in your hands when you need it. That's what Bedford's, they excel at. They're great, great service, great price, great inventory. Great people. Great friends. Need stuff? Head to the store. Go to the website. Give them a phone call. Tell them who sent you because you're going to see some real savings after you check out Bedford's. Bedford's.com. So, got to go fly fishing this past weekend. Out with my son Jake, who is, who has truly mastered This fly fishing thing. He has gone flying past uh, my skill level and uh, yeah, I might have start him out, might have given him some Input way back in the day, but he has gone flying past dad and it's really cool to see. So he took mom and me to two new locations to go fly fishing the first day. It's about two hours away from Bozeman. And we got down, got to the end of the trail, or end of the road, I should say, dirt road. And we walked another two miles and we came to the spot which Never been to in my life. Didn't know existed, even though it's in Montana. And as far as Sharon and I are concerned, it was as close to Shangri-La As you could be. I mean, the fact that I was going to be fly fishing there all day was just blowing my mind. In this beautiful location. So we get there, and I don't know where Jake gets his stuff, but He instantly starts sharing his wisdom. He says, okay, this is the crick, and here's the outflow, and it's the way it's going, and there's a big shelf, they're deep, blah, blah, blah, uh, How to drift, how to, you know, mend the line, what we need to do, where the fish are, they're big guys, blah, blah, blah. Lay it all out for dad, which was perfect. He did a great job. So, hadn't fished since last August. I didn't think anything of it, really. Tie on my flies and cast out. Cast out again. Fourth or fifth cast again. Fish on. Boink. Fish off. Now I've fished with barbless hooks forever. I, I, I do that for many reasons. The one is it really increases the likelihood the fish won't be damaged in any way. And two, it, Pushes myself to be a better fisherman. So I lost the fish. I didn't think anything of it, really. You know, it's just part of the process. So I bring my line in. Cast out. Watch it hit the water and it didn't splash right. I said, hmm. Reeled it back in and looked and

my fly's gone. I'm like, oh, man, snapped a line. Must have been a good fish. Or I caught something after I caught him and it broke off the line. It happens. Get out, and this is the painful part. I have to get out, take off my sunglasses, put on my reading glasses, yeah, because I'm old and I can't see those little eyes anymore, so I get out and I... Tie another fly, get it all done, cut off the little tab, put it in my pocket. Putting my ready glasses off. Sunglasses back on. Cast out there. Four, five, six. Bam! Hit again. Nice hit. Really nice hit. Cool. Got on. Set the hook. Start to reel in, bam, he's gone. I'm like, wow. This is just bad luck. I don't normally, you know. Okay. All right, Moose. Get your act together. Reel my line in. Cast out. Cast out. Four or five casts. Then Don's on me. You know what? I'm not seeing the splashes I should be seeing of my nymph when I cast. I pull it in and the hook's gone again. The fly's off. And I'm like, wow, what are the odds? That's just weird. So. Tie another fly. Do it again. Took a little bit longer. Bam! Hit it. Cool. Bringing it in. Having a little fun. Poof! It's gone again. I'm like, no way. No way. Reel in, my fly's gone. Now Jake and I, we fish, not shoulder to shoulder, And not miles apart. We're about thirty forty yards apart maybe sometimes. Maybe fifty So we can see each other. We can, you know, we talk about what we're Getting strikes on and this, that, and the other, what we're seeing. And this location was gorgeous. I mean, I've got nesting tree swallows and kingfishers and God, what else? It was just so distracting. I almost wanted to be a photographer. Osprey over my head the whole time and, and goldeneye and mergansers, bald eagles. It was just unbelievably gorgeous. Puffy clouds and this big canyon. So, I tie another fly on. Yep. Fish for a little while. Bam. Got it. Boom. Lost it. At this point, Jake says, what's going on over there? I said, I just lost my fourth fly. And I said, I think my knots aren't holding. What? Jake says. I don't think my knots are holding. Hold on. So he comes over. And he said, well... Looking at my leaders and stuff, he goes, let's just switch out the leaders, see if that's the issue. And so he did the blood knot. He goes, okay, just to take out the variable, I'll tie the fly on. All set. Cast out there. Bam! Got one. This time I landed it. Nice one. Get the pictures, catch and release. Brent or Jake goes, hmm, that's interesting. I said, yeah, that's quite a coincidence. And so then we go back to fishing. Next one, another nice fish. Really nice fish. I'm bringing it in and it's probably twenty twenty-one inches. Comes right up to the, to just where Jake's about ready to net it. It gets off. And I said, man, I lost another hook and came in and nope, this time it was me. I horsed it too much. Forced it too much. It got off. Just, Jake said, Dad, it's not a salmon. So then, uh, come in, I go, well, at least we didn't lose the fly. He said, yep, remember, I tied that one on there. I said, no, that's kind of bugging me. He said, well, Dad, you haven't fly fished since last August. Maybe before you came, you should have just done a little practice. And then you're like, of course, hit me like a sledgehammer. I mean, how many times have you heard me say right here on this podcast or in my books or on the website? You know, photographers, they go out on Saturday and they make all these mistakes and then Sunday they're feeling better. Then they go back home and in five days they don't practice and then it's all over again. Well... I should have listened to myself. It was the same bloody thing. Did I practice my knots before I went out fly fishing? Nope. Did I get the rod out and do some practice casts? Get used to where things were in my vest pocket for my fishing vest. Nope. I went out totally cold. Had nothing since last August. And... I missed some great fish. Now, Sunday when I went out, everything was clicking again. Catching the fish, bringing them in, never lost a single hook. Didn't lose a single fish. And that's why I'm saying, I just thought to myself, geez, should have just listened to myself. Just a little

practice would have made all the difference. It's the same with photography. It's just part of being human. Keep that in mind that you want to improve, at least not go backwards. It just takes a little practice. You folks have a marvelous week. Appreciate you stopping by. Appreciate you reaching out. You take care. Got questions, I'm here for you. And remember to make every click your story.