



Fishing and Photography

Paul



My Background

- I am an amateur
Photographer
- Have been fishing and taking
photos since boyhood
- I love sharing my passion for
both



Why take photos

- In this digital age it has never been easier to take and share images.
- We all like it when we see an image that transports us to a place or feeling that we experienced or shared.
- Personally, I love to share a moment with family and friends with an image that I am proud of.
- It is so much more than just "grip and Grins".

A scenic river landscape with a large tree in the foreground and a forest in the background. The tree has a thick, gnarled trunk and branches that arch over the river. The river flows through a lush green forest, with rocks visible in the water. The sky is clear and blue.

Aims

- **To help simplify your choices of photographic equipment**
- **To give you a few tips on photographic techniques**
- **To expand your ideas on image composition**
- **Untangle the mystery of digital image manipulation**
- **To reduce the harm to fish if practicing catch and release**



Equipment

Types of cameras

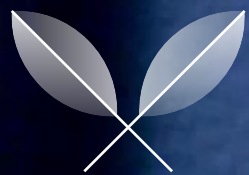
- **Phone cameras**
- **Compact point and shoot**
- **DSLR**
- **Mirror-less camera**
- **Micro 4/3rds**
- **Action cameras**

A lot or little?



The bare minimum...





Camera Features: Desirable and Essential



Essential

Desirable

Essential features	Desirable features
Weather/water proof	Waterproof
Shoot RAW files	Inter changeable lens system
Attach a circular polarizer	Fast lens (f1.8)
Mountable to a tripod	Drop proof
Have a wide angle lens	Capable of quality video
Manually adjustable exposure factors	Wi-Fi/blue tooth conductivity
Programable exposure modes	A larger sensor

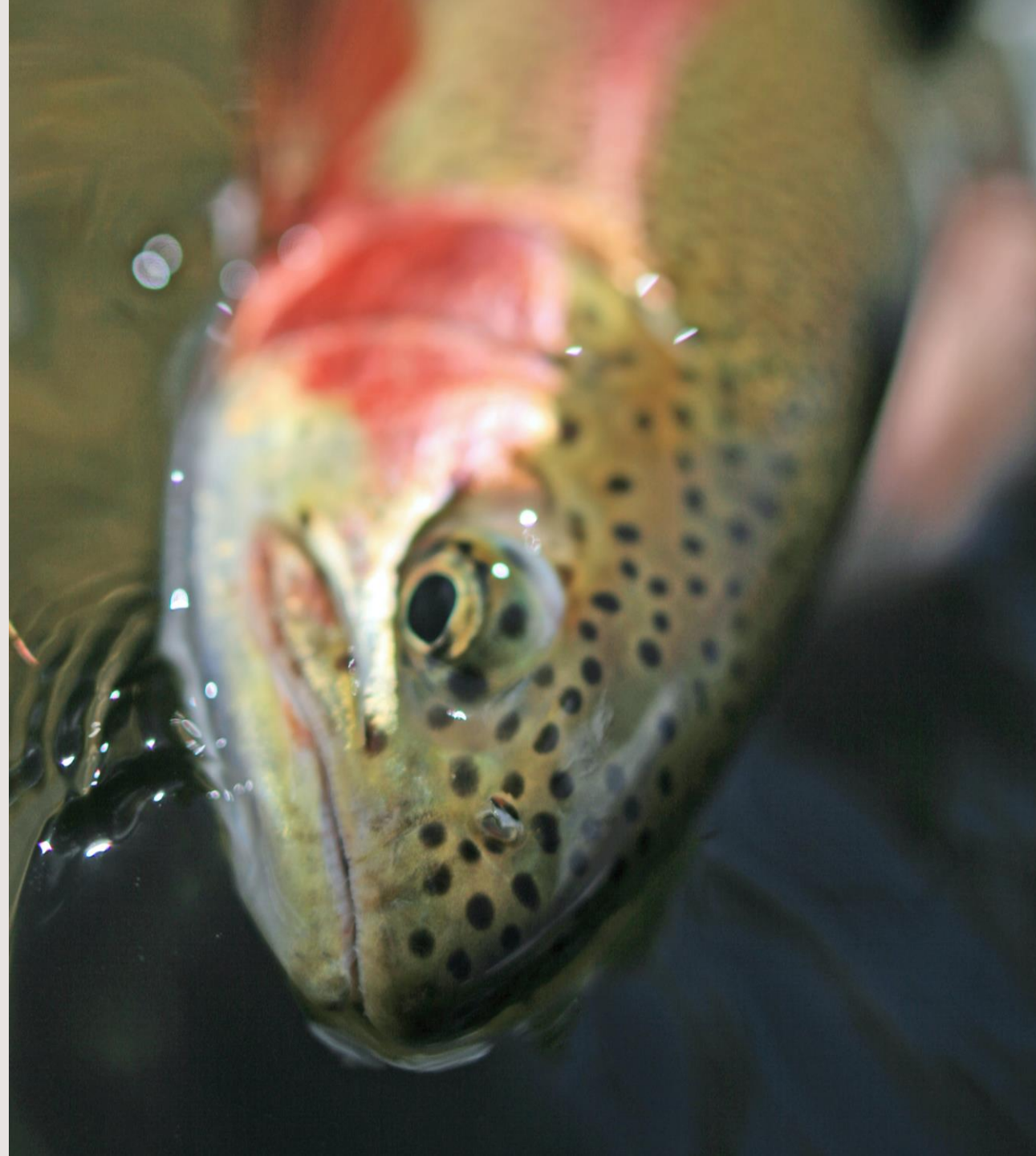
Phone Cameras: Advantages



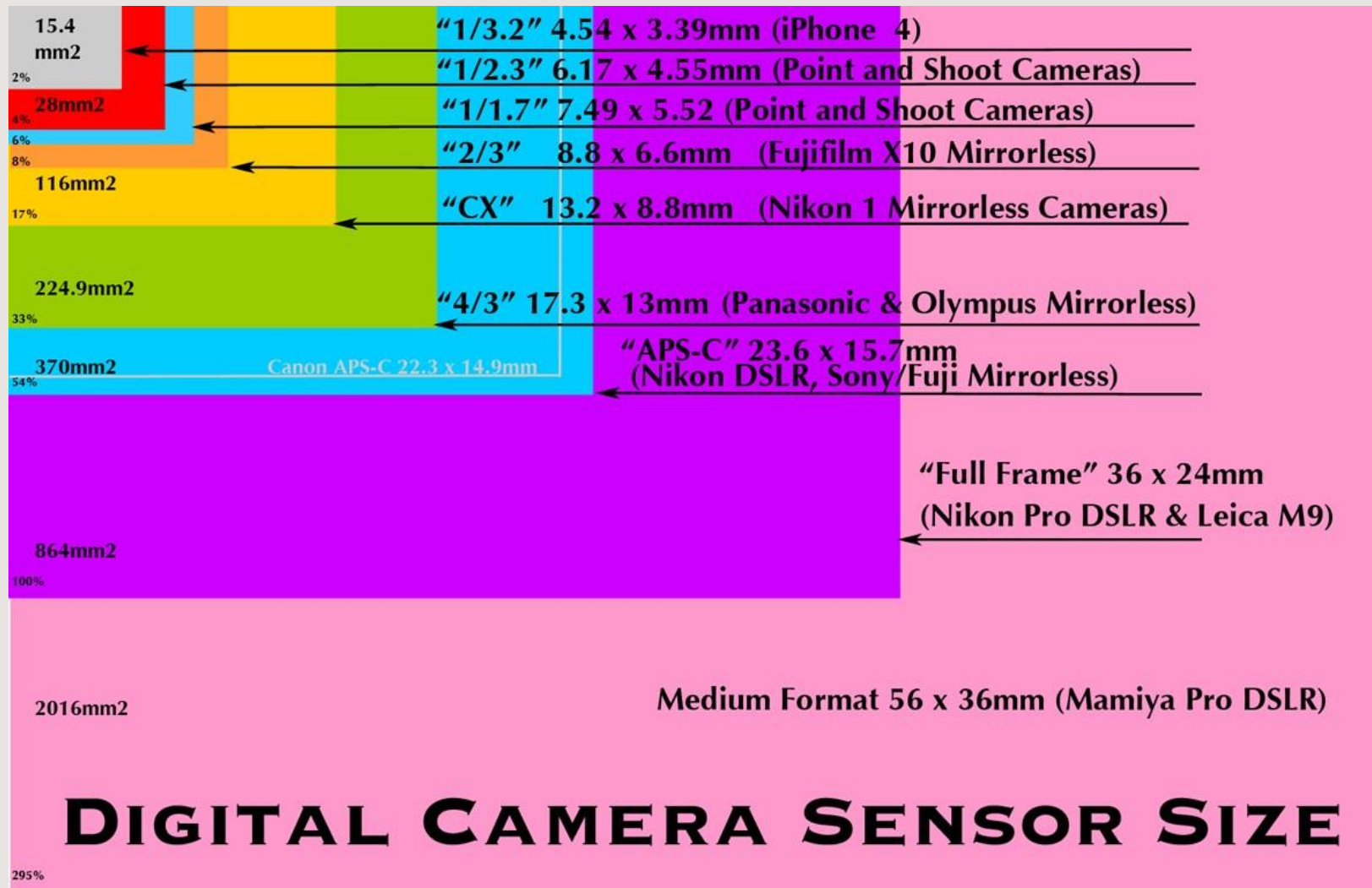
- **Convenient and nearly always available**
- **Simple to use**
- **The settings are all automatic**
- **Easy to edit and share all from the one device**
- **Many phones are capable of capturing incredible photos**
- **They have a small sensor = can focus on close and far objects simultaneously**

Phone Cameras: Disadvantages

- **Water and phones don't go well together - mostly**
- **Expensive and delicate**
- **Small sensor- cannot get those classy shallow depth of field shots.**
- **The settings are heavily weighted towards a fast exposure time. They use very high ISO settings to achieve this.**
- **Dedicated cameras produce better images**



The camera sensor



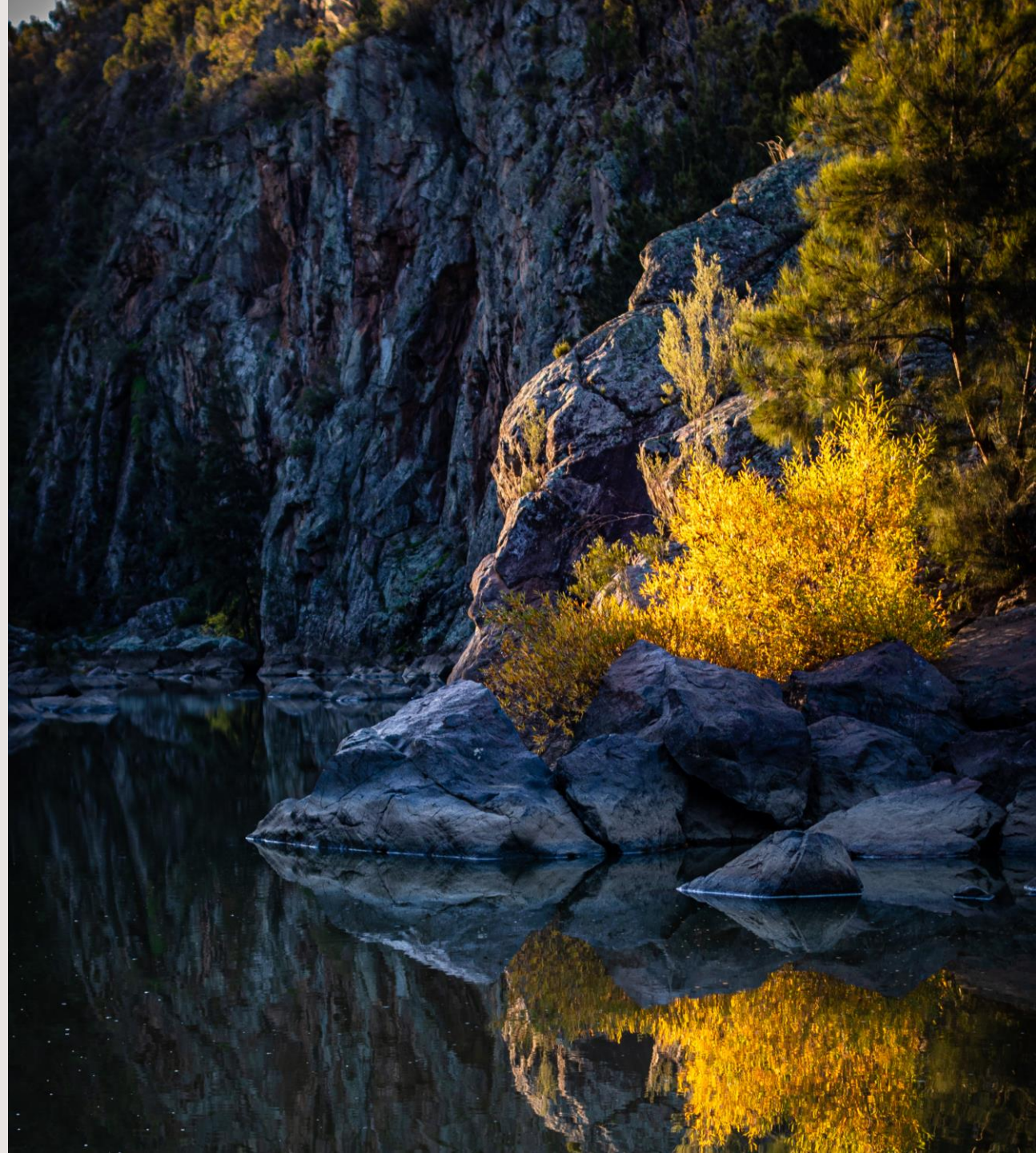
Compact Cameras

- Point and shoot cameras are incredibly useful and their performance often match their fancy big brothers in the DSLR stable.
- They have smaller sensors than DSLR cameras but are packed with features including great video capabilities. Zoom lens that go from wide all the way to telephoto.
- Small and light. An idea companion



Digital Single Lens Reflex (DSLR): Advantages

- The choice of professionals
- Unlock your inner creative force
- Larger sensors
- Interchangeable lens systems
- Complete creative control
- Entry level models are very compact





DSLR: Disadvantages

- **Not waterproof**
- **Bulkier and heavier**
- **Expensive**
- **Extra lens add more weight**
- **Produce bigger files and consume more computing resources**

Mirrorless and Micro 4/3rds cameras

- There is an incredible range of new cameras that do not use a lens reflex system
- Amazing image quality with less bulk
- Interchangeable lens
- Expensive
- Not water friendly



Action Cameras

- Incredibly durable and capable
- Designed for video but take great still images
- Very light and able to be attached to almost anything

Photographic Techniques



Exposure basics

- ISO
- Exposure time
- Aperture



Auto and manual exposure

- **Full automatic is a great place to start**
- **Program automatic is the next place to explore**
- **Full manual mode is useful for more creative aspirations.**



Aperture and depth of field

- Being able to control your cameras aperture give you greater control
- Large apertures, f 1.8 - f-4, let in more light and give you a shallow depth of field and are good for low light conditions.
- Lens with the ability to shoot with large apertures are generally bigger, heavier, and more expensive.
- This look can be achieved on lesser lens by some trickery in post processing.





Tripods and long exposures



Tripods make a big difference

- Particularly in taking scenic landscapes
- Long exposures are great for smoothing out moving subjects like running water
- They give an image a more saturated look.
- Use exposure bracketing more effectively
- Great for selfies
- Enable the use of low ISO settings

Polarizing filters

- Fishing, water, reflected light, all add up to using a polarizing filter.
- Not many point and shoot cameras are capable of attaching a polarizer.



RAW files, Jpegs

- Shooting using RAW files (or equivalent) can save your bacon
- Using AEB (automatic exposure bracketing)
- HDR settings on phones is also useful



Landscape techniques





Exposure bracketing |



A 2 second exposure at dusk. A handy log was the tripod

Last light, tripod



Grip and Grin portraits

- People often forget to actually smile
- How you hold a fish is important
- Limit the time you hold the fish out of the water to a few seconds
- A deep net with soft netting keeps the fish safe whilst you get organized.
- Use a medium aperture setting so to get the anglers face in focus as well
- Get the angler to remove sun glasses and face coverings if possible
- Fill the frame with the subject, ie. The fish...



Tips for better images

- **In very bright conditions consider a flash or move the angler and the fish in the shade**
- **Consider the background and the fishes best side**
- **Get the angler to gently roll the fish whilst taking multiple frames. This means you may get the perfect lighting**
- **Keep your supporting hand/fingers tucked away.**
- **You may choose to include the fly/lure as part of the image.**




Flash fill in in bright conditions



Backgrounds are important



A man with a red beard and a black cap is smiling broadly while holding a large brown trout. The fish has a golden-brown body with numerous dark spots and a lighter belly. The man is wearing a tan jacket. The background shows a body of water and a hilly landscape under a cloudy sky.

Now this is a smile!
The fish is shown at its best



Keep the fish wet

- Photos in or just above the water are always appealing
- Experiment with different exposure times and shallow depth of field

Flowing water is demonstrated by the slightly long exposure





Semi submerged in the weeds

Include the fly to tell the story



Composition Ideas



Leading lines



Another example of leading lines



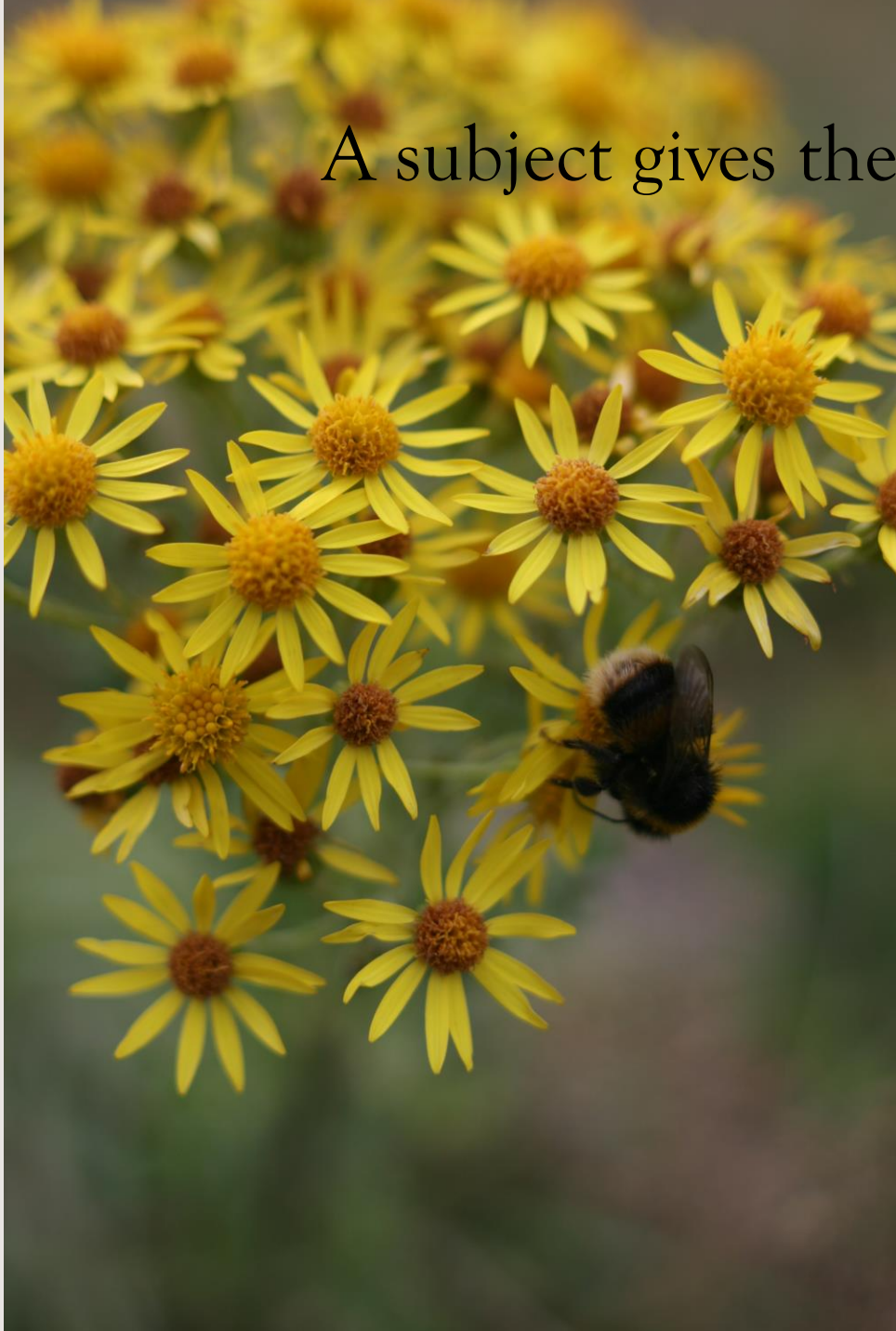
Foreground interest



Create a mood



A subject gives the image meaning



A close-up photograph of a fish's scales, showing a gradient from light orange to deep red. The scales have a fine, concentric texture. A small, dark, triangular spot is visible on one of the scales, serving as a focal point for the text.

Little details sometime tell a bigger story

Close up and macro



A larger aperture helps to isolate a subject



Post Processing



Why

- Improve your images
- Make them easier to share
- Try to stay true to the mood of what the photographer experience.

How: simple steps that will improve your images

- Crop: The single most important tool. Consider several crops for different purposes, for example Instagram.
- Turn highlights down, shadows up and vibrance up
- Turn up contrast, mid tones only if possible
- A slight darkened vignette works wonders
- Selective brushing of increased saturation to the subject can make the image pop
- Sharpening can be added to give it a final kick

Fish Handling

- If you are releasing fish, its vital to handle fish appropriately





Thanks for staying awake till this point