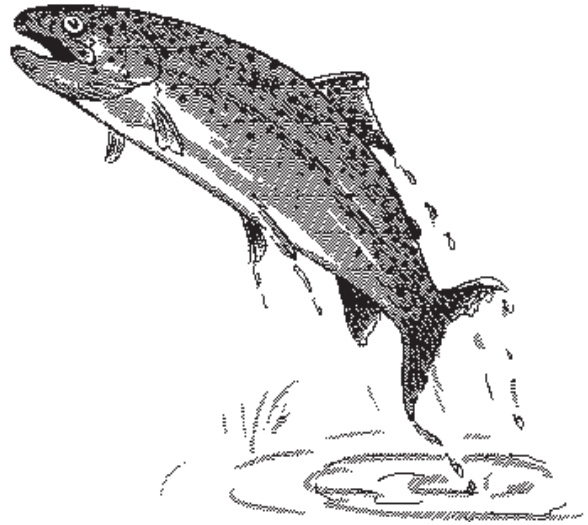


Electric

The Evergreen Trout



November 2003 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 21 No. 11

From the Sec,

Yes, this is from the Sec, otherwise known as the Secretary. I inherited the responsibility for drafting this message because the Prez is out in Nebraska hunting pheasants. Knowing that there is no catch-and-release hunting, I'll be expecting a "pheasant under glass" in exchange for this column. Actually, I've been slacking in my secretarial duties recently, so I apologize and vow to improve in the upcoming months.

I hope that everyone is enjoying the last days of fine fall fishing. Soon the snow will be falling, and only the diehards will be out freezing their butts in some ice-cold tailwater. Or even worse, somebody may venture out onto the ice and drill a hole. As for me, I'll put down the rod and pick up the boards. That fine whoosh of untracked powder under skis will take my mind off trout, at least for an afternoon. There will then be plenty of time in the evenings for tying flies, reading about fishing, and, of course, attending presentations on fishing.

Speaking of upcoming programs, we have some good ones planned. This month, our own Peggy Linn will present a slide show on the history of the Wilderness Act and its relevance to fishing. Peggy will discuss the effort it took to pass the act and its many benefits, including protecting watersheds, fisheries, and critical habitat for wildlife, especially those threatened by extinction. If you think wilderness is forever, guess again. There are many out there in influential positions that don't share our values, and would rather exploit and develop our existing wilderness areas.

In December, our normal monthly meeting will be replaced with the traditional ETU Holiday Party. Dick Wheeler once again has volunteered the use of his lovely and cozy home on December 13th. We will also draw the winners in our raffle, so if you haven't bought any tickets, you better get with it. We have a lovely 3-weight Powell rod and an Orvis Battenkill disc reel as our first prize, a

guided trip to the Farmer's Union as the second prize, and a fly fishing class at the Blue Quill College as the third prize.

In January, just in case you didn't get enough of the holidays, Jackson Streit will present a slideshow entitled "Bonefishing on Christmas Island." Mr. Streit is the popular author of *The No Nonsense Guide to Fly Fishing in Colorado*, and he owns the Mountain Angler in Breckenridge. Although I've never gone bonefishing, I've seen a couple of good shows on bonefishing, and I understand Christmas Island has some of the biggest fish. Be prepared for clear blue waters, white sand beaches, palm trees, and babes in bikinis. Okay, okay, there won't be any women in bikinis, just a bunch of old fat guys in long-sleeved shirts, which we hope they won't take off.

I'll be giving the presentation at the February meeting. I'll assemble a collection of some of the best slides that I took in 2003, similar to what I did in 1999, 2000, and 2002. There will be no lecturing, I promise. We'll just go through the seasons of the year examining ice-out fishing in British Columbia, the recovery of the burned area at Trappers Lake, summer cutthroat fishing in the Holy Cross and Mount Zirkel Wilderness, autumn silvers in Alaska, and a number of other Trout Unlimited activities and trips. This format has been a hit in previous years and I'm sure you'll enjoy it. We'll be following later in the year with programs on the North Platte River, North Park, the Blue River, and the North Fork of the South Platte.

Kudos to the dozen volunteers who assisted with planting willows along Bear Creek last month. I would like to consider this effort as the "groundbreaking" of our major stream restoration project in O'Fallon Park. And lastly, don't forget Karen Christopherson's generous pledge. She will match the first \$1,000 in contributions to the project.

Tight lines,
Ron

The Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets the third Wednesday of the month at the Evergreen Hotel in downtown Evergreen (next to the Little Bear). Join us for Dinner/Chapter Business at 6:30pm followed by the program at ~7:30pm. We look forward to seeing YOU there!

The Good Guys Win! BIG!!!

I think that these headlines from around the state pretty much say it all...

Surprise and smiles on Colorado's western slope. 2-1 margin to reject \$2 billion water referendum was much larger than expected. *Durango Herald 11/5/03*

Water referendum sinks across Colorado. Personal defeat for the governor who strongly backed it. *AP/Boulder Daily Camera 11/5/03*

Colorado's \$2 billion measure to pay for reservoirs and other water projects was soundly rejected across the state. A bitter fight over the referendum divided the arid Eastern Plains and the water-rich Western Slope. *Rocky Mountain News 11/4/03*

Colorado lawmaker who led fight to get the \$2 billion water referendum on the ballot pours his heart out. "We just need some new ideas at this point," [Sen. Jim Dyer - (R) Arapahoe County] says, urging all sides to work together. *Rocky Mountain News 11/6/03*

We, the grassroots folks, deserve a standing ovation for this one! All of the staff at CTU HQ should also take a bow! They worked their collective butts off on this issue. I think that this measure was largely killed by word-of-mouth -- "Oh yeah, that's the blank check...". In the end, Referendum A was defeated in all 64 Colorado counties -- some were close, but the overall margin of 2-1 was a pleasant surprise. Sometimes "the good guys" really DO win.

Tim Haller

November Program

"In wildness is the preservation of the world."
Henry David Thoreau

Poets and philosophers centuries ago planted the seeds for the wilderness ideal. Others like John Muir, Bob Marshall, Aldo Leopold, Arthur Carhart, and Howard Zanheiser made the Wilderness Act a reality. ETU member Peggy Linn's program, "The Wilderness Act Turns Forty -- Its History and Impact", takes a look at what it took to eventually pass the Wilderness Act, and what encompasses the National Wilderness Preservation System. Many of the benefits of wilderness are yet to be discovered, but some that will be discussed include protecting watersheds and fisheries, protecting critical habitat for wildlife especially those threatened by extinction, and the benefits wilderness provides to our air quality. The program will explore the impacts on wilderness and what we need to do to ensure that "wildness" remains a part of our culture.

Peggy Linn was an environmental education coordinator for the US Forest Service on the Wasatch-Cache National Forest for seven years and is a master Leave No Trace instructor. Her Master of Science project was about the history of the wilderness act and its' preservation. She currently works for the Environmental Protection Agency as a Community Involvement Coordinator for Superfund sites.

Remember, there will be no meeting at the Evergreen Hotel in December. Instead, we hope to see you at the ETU Holiday Party, December 13th at Dick Wheeler's home.

Randy Huiting

The Evergreen Trout

Bear Creek Project Prelude

A fisherman's dozen ETU volunteers spent the morning of October 18th planting willows and other shrubs along the banks of Bear Creek in O'Fallon Park. About 30 new bushes were planted with the hope of providing shade, cover, and bank stabilization in this heavily used Denver Mountain Park.

This event was a kind of "prelude" of things to come in O'Fallon Park next year. We learned a few things too -- wet DOES NOT necessarily mean easy to dig. Next year, when we have 300 of them to plant, we're going to need a few more volunteers. So pencil in a weekend or two next Fall for "the real thing". We should have specific dates by early next year.

Kudos to Troy Thompson and Mike Goldblatt for providing the plants and mulch; and to all of the folks who came out on a beautiful Saturday morning to "give something back".
THANK YOU!!!

Tim Haller



The Dirty "Fisherman's Dozen"



**Peggy Linn and Steve Murray are headed for China...
Kudos...**

...to Jill Haller, Ron Belak, and Randy Huiting for their help with the newsletter.

...to Master Printers Inc. of Evergreen for copying and folding.

Ed.

TU Aids Rio Grande Cutthroat Conservation

A protective fish barrier on the Lake Fork of the Conejos River received some much needed repairs this month thanks to a partnership between the San Luis Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, and the Rio Grande National Forest. Rio Grande cutthroat trout were reintroduced to the Lake Fork in 1977 and established a strong population in only a few years. Unfortunately, nonnative salmonids quickly reinvaded the habitat, and have effectively displaced cutthroat trout over the past 20 years. A fish barrier was constructed in 1996 to prevent further upstream invasion, but its design was ineffective. Therefore, repairing this barrier is the first step in a second restoration effort to remove nonnative salmonids and reintroduce Rio Grande cutthroat trout. The San Luis Valley Chapter acquired an Embrace-A-Stream grant and made a private donation to secure the barrier repairs for the first stage of restoration. When projects are complete, the Lake Fork will provide nearly 5 miles of stream and an 11.9 acre lake for cutthroat trout conservation, which is a habitat complex that is larger and more secure than most existing Rio Grande cutthroat trout streams throughout its range.

Trout Unlimited's Rio Grande cutthroat trout conservation efforts on the Lake Fork Conejos River and North Fork Carnero Creek were conducted under a Challenge Cost Share Agreement with the Rio Grande National Forest established in 2001. Contact: Amy Harig, 303-772-4007 or aharig@tu.org

TU Lines to Leaders - November 2003



What Are You Waiting For???

The Century Club of Colorado Trout Unlimited is committed to conserving, protecting, and restoring Colorado's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. You can help our cause tremendously by becoming a valuable member of our Century Club. Your membership in The Century Club makes a real difference on behalf of Colorado's fish and waterways, including species such as the threatened greenback cutthroat trout, a Colorado native fish. Join the CTU Century Club today! We greatly appreciate any contribution you can make!

Membership levels:

\$100 Basic membership includes newsletter and invitation to events, including the annual Century Club Fishing Day

\$150 Button down embroidered Century Club shirt or a Tomelleri print of a cutthroat trout

\$250 Box of flies tied for your favorite river by some of Colorado's best tyers

\$500 Receive one and a half days of fishing and one night of lodging at North Park Fishing Club

\$1000 "Fish with the local expert" on their "home" waters

\$2500 Place a "commemorative bench" to honor the individual of your choice.

CTU

New TU Student Newsletter

This November we will be launching TU's newsletter geared specifically for student members. This brand new publication, *Fish Tales*, will feature stories and articles written by TU student members around the country, giving them a forum for communication and expression. It includes monthly departments such as Fly of the Month, Stream Spotlight, Fly Fishing Tips, and much more.

Don't forget about the **free 6 month trial membership** offer for the youth participants in your fly fishing education program or event. This is a great way to get younger people involved in your chapter and connect them to TU. They will receive the student newsletter, as well as all of the other benefits of membership. Please call Rob Roberts at 703-284-9424 (rroberts@tu.org) if you are interested in receiving or contributing to TU's new Student Newsletter, *Fish Tales*, or would like free 6-month trial membership offers for your next youth fly fishing event. Thanks for your time spent volunteering with the next generation of coldwater stewards.

TU Lines to Leaders - November 2003

TU's New Strategic Plan

Our Vision

By the next generation, Trout Unlimited will ensure that robust populations of native and wild coldwater fish once again thrive within their North American range, so that our children can enjoy healthy fisheries in their home waters.

Our Mission

To conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.

Our Values

Healthy Watersheds and Clean Water

We are committed to ensuring quantities of cold, clean water sufficient to sustain healthy fish populations and to watershed restoration and wise fisheries management.

Wild and Native Trout and Salmon

Healthy populations of native and wild fish are the best indicators of watershed health, and we are committed to the protection and restoration of these fish where ecologically sustainable.

Stewardship and Advocacy

As stewards for future generations, we employ sound science and work cooperatively with a broad spectrum of interests in defending and advocating for our natural resource legacy.

Commitment to Members

We owe our uniqueness to a passionately committed, diverse, volunteer network of members who pursue our mission in their local councils and chapters. We will sustain this member network through representative governance and a continuous commitment to grassroots support, learning, and development.

Quality People

In the pursuit of our cause, our most important resource is our people -- both staff and volunteers -- who sustain and support each other's work.

Our Goals

Strengthen TU's leadership in coldwater conservation nationally, regionally & locally. Better integrate and enhance the development of the TU team. Increase public awareness of TU and its mission. Increase and motivate an effective membership. Diversify and grow sources of revenue. Achieve financial stability and security.

TU website

??? What's Happening ???

November 2003

- 19th (W) ETU Chapter Meeting
Evergreen Hotel - 6:30p
Peggy Linn - the Wilderness Act/Low
Impact Camping
- 26th (W) ETU Board Meeting
Rib Crib (Other Side) - 6:30p

December 2003

- 13th(Sa) **ETU Holiday Party**
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!
The big Raffle drawing, food,
drink, prizes, fish stories and
more. Join us for a FUN
evening.
Details and directions inside.
- 17th (W) **NO MEETING!**
- ??th (?) ETU Board Meeting - Date TBA

New Members

Please join me in welcoming **Megan Clancy, L. Schubert, Thom Hanna, and Mark Wallace** to ETU.
If you need help with a membership problem of any kind, call me and I'll do my best to get it straightened out.
Creel count: **305**
Randy Huiting

The Evergreen Trout

Chapter Contacts

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At Large	Len Wheaton	674-4243
Webmaster	Karen Christopherson <kc@coloradofishing.net>	674-0252
CTU Office	Various nice folks	440-2937

On the web - www.tu.org; www.cotrout.org; www.evergreentroutrout.org
Contact any of us with questions, suggestions, or spare time.

Editorial Policy

All submissions to the newsletter must be received by the Editor by the **1st Friday of the month**. Submissions may be on 3 1/2" disc or e-mailed. All items are subject to editing/space limitations. Articles are copyrighted by the author unless otherwise noted. **All phone numbers are Area Code 303 unless otherwise noted.** Call me for additional information.

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Working to protect America's streams.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited
1999 Outstanding Chapter Communications Award
2000 Outstanding Youth Education Program Award



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