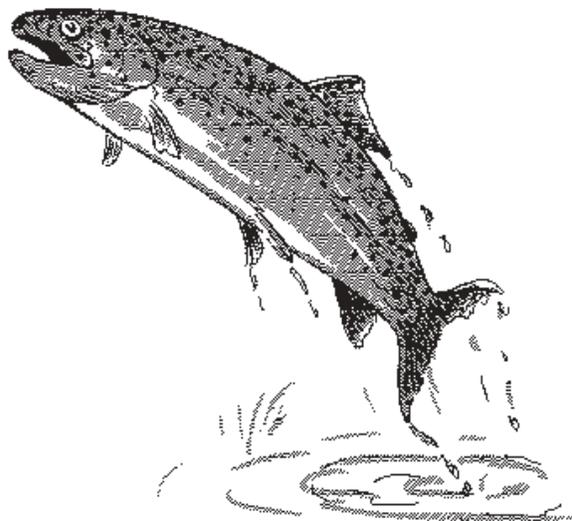


Electric

The Evergreen Trout



November/December 2005 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 23 No. 11

President's Drag Free Drift

Announcements!

First, our **John Fielder Program/Book Sale/Silent Auction** will be held Saturday, November 12th, at the United Methodist Church of Evergreen. The doors will open at 6:00p with the Program starting at 7:00p. We will also have door prizes, plenty of John's books for sale, refreshments, and a silent auction. Tickets will be available at the door (\$10 ea.). This event will take the place of our November General Meeting.

Now, if you are desperate for a November meeting, we will be having the board meeting Wednesday, November 16th, 6:30p at Beau Jo's. Please feel free to attend and see what goes on behind the scenes.

Our annual **Holiday Party** will be held at **Dick Wheeler's** home, on Saturday, December, 3rd. This is always a good time and has proven to be one of the best holiday parties in the region. Be there or be square. Details about what to bring for food, food, food, etc., and directions to Dick's house are on page 4. This event will take the place of our December General Meeting.

If you are desperate for a December meeting, we will be having the board meeting on....**Oops**, I don't know when the meeting will be. Just give me a call or I will announce at the holiday party. This will be an important meeting because we will be planning our calendar for next year. If you want some input, **be there!**

Our tireless newsletter editor, **Tim Haller**, has the month off in December. If you are desperate for a December newsletter, I am sure Tim would gladly turn over the job, but it would probably be permanent. **Ha! Ha!**

We had our Colorado Trout Unlimited area

representative, **Gil Hassinger**, pay us a visit at the last general meeting. He told us about the River Watch Program, sponsored by the CDOW. It is a river/stream monitoring program primarily focusing on water quality. The board discussed this program, and we may try to include it in our plans for next year.

I had the pleasure of introducing **Cooper "Coop" Jacobs** and his mother **Sherry** at our last general meeting. Coop asked me to be his mentor for an **Eighth Grade Montessori School Project**. Coop is very interested in all aspects of fly fishing. He and his family are joining our Trout Unlimited Chapter. For his project we are going to primarily tie flies and identify what they imitate (He wants to record before and after flies he ties, as he learns). He is going to incorporate his work into a PowerPoint presentation for the end of the school year. I am also going to try and convince him to present his project at one of our general meetings. When Coop first talked to me, he said one of his classmate's project was Break-Dancing. First I was relieved that I was not asked to be a break-dancing mentor. Then I thought who **WOULD** be a break-dancing mentor? Can anybody imagine me break-dancing? Well, have no fear, Coop and I will not be break-dancing in the stream. **Okay, maybe a little dancing when he catches his first fish on a fly that he tied!** All kidding aside, I was honored that Coop asked me to be his mentor.

See you at the Fielder program and/or the Holiday Party!

Hal

{Hal Garwood break-dancing?!? "Break" may well be the operative word in that sentence... - Ed.}

The Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited meets the third Wednesday of the month at Beau Jo's Pizzeria in downtown Evergreen (across from the Little Bear). Join us for Dinner/Chapter Business/Classes at 6:00pm followed by the program at ~7:30pm. We look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

October Board Meeting

An update on the O'Fallon Park stream restoration project showed that all work is completed other than the video showing how the changes were made to Bear Creek. The video is scheduled for completion by the first of December.

ETU is looking for a volunteer to head up the fly-tying sessions at the regular monthly meetings. The sessions seem to have been well received but will need someone to coordinate if they are to continue next year.

The board discussed creating a committee to monitor and report regularly to the board on issues related to Bear Creek, with particular attention to fish counts, water temperatures and pollutants. It is likely that the EPA's listing of the stream as an impaired water will be challenged and the committee would be charged with making sure ETU has sufficient current data on the stream. A final decision was delayed pending further discussions with several of the people who have been involved in the Bear Creek/EPA issue.

Board members discussed the possibility of taking on another stream/fisheries project next year and agreed to solicit ideas from the membership.

Ron Belak outlined some possible high-lakes outings for the ETU membership next summer. Those will be reviewed further after the first of the year.

There was further discussion of the plan to limit free fishing days at Buchanan Pond next year to those ETU members who volunteer on ETU projects. Details remain to be worked out with the Evergreen Park and Recreation District on how it will be applied. It also will be necessary for ETU project leaders to maintain lists of volunteers and to keep those updated with the rec center. The number of fishing days available next year is not yet known.

It was reported that no progress has been made with the state on getting additional signs up along Bear Creek alerting anglers to the fishing regulations.

The board agreed that ETU should take no position on the location of the Genesee Water and Sanitation District's dam and reservoir, currently proposed near Cold Springs Gulch just north of Hwy. 74, between Kittredge and Idledale. The impacts on Bear Creek, from which the project would draw water during runoff, appeared to be equal whatever the location. It was agreed, however, that a letter should be sent and made part of the review process, arguing that any site should include maximum environmental and aesthetic considerations, some of which appeared to have been minimized in the existing proposal.

John Haile

The 'Electric' Evergreen Trout

Hey folks, get your newsletter the easy way. The Evergreen Trout is available via e-mail! It's a simple and painless process. Really! Just e-mail your request for an electronic copy (in Adobe .pdf format -- requires the FREE Adobe Acrobat Reader) to me, troutguy@speedtrail.net, and I'll get you on the 'E' list.

Currently about 25% of our members receive their newsletter this way. Let's see if we can increase that number. Every electronic copy saves the chapter more than \$6/year. And it's in COLOR! These savings add up fast, since we "snail mail" about 400 copies per month. To take the Electric Evergreen Trout out for a test drive, visit our web site -- www.evergreentrout.org -- and take a look at a past issue. If you like it (and I think you will), sign up!

Tim Haller

The Evergreen Trout

River Watch

{For those of you who missed Gil Hassinger's presentation at our last meeting, here is the scoop on the CDOW's River Watch Program. - Ed}

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (CDOW) developed an exciting and far-reaching program that involves volunteers in protecting the quality of Colorado rivers. Called "Rivers of Colorado Water Watch Network" (ROCWWN), or "River Watch", the program links environmental protection with education in a meaningful, hands-on project for Colorado residents. Participants currently are made up of middle and high school students, their teachers, watershed management groups and stakeholders.



The program began in 1990 with 19 schools along the Arkansas, Eagle and Yampa rivers. Annually, 140 groups are monitoring all eight major watersheds in Colorado. River Watch is sponsored by CDOW and administered through a non-profit organization entitled Colorado Watershed Network (CWN). CWN provides staff to train volunteers, analyze samples and provide administrative expertise.

Data collected is used by federal, state and local agencies to make decisions about river/water management. The Colorado Department of Health has already used data collected from Clear Creek in hearings to determine water quality standards for the stream.

Objectives

Provide the CDOW, regulatory agencies and other interested entities with functional water-quality data. This data will be used to make better management decisions regarding the rivers and aquatic habitat of Colorado.

Provide an educational opportunity for middle/junior high and high school students to understand and value our river ecosystems. The students, with supervision and support from their teachers and schools, monitor a portion of a river near their community, collecting biological, physical, and chemical data over time. After data collection, the kids learn how these three parameters interact to produce the river ecosystem. The students, and sometimes the teachers, learn that when one of these three variables is altered, for better or worse, the other two are affected as well.

Results

Accurate, useable data on all rivers in the Network. All data is carefully collected and analyzed according to state water quality standards and, thus useful to the CDOW, Water Quality Control Commissioners, EPA and other governing agencies.

Informed, knowledgeable citizens who understand water quality, river ecosystems and are committed to improving and maintaining Colorado's outstanding aquatic resources.

Direct education benefits to each student, teacher, school and community involved. Each participating school receives technically complete and up-to-date monitoring equipment and a computer.

Colorado Division of Wildlife web site

Evergreen Trout Unlimited

Presents

*An evening of spectacular photography
and stories with*

JOHN FIELDER

Colorado's premier nature photographer



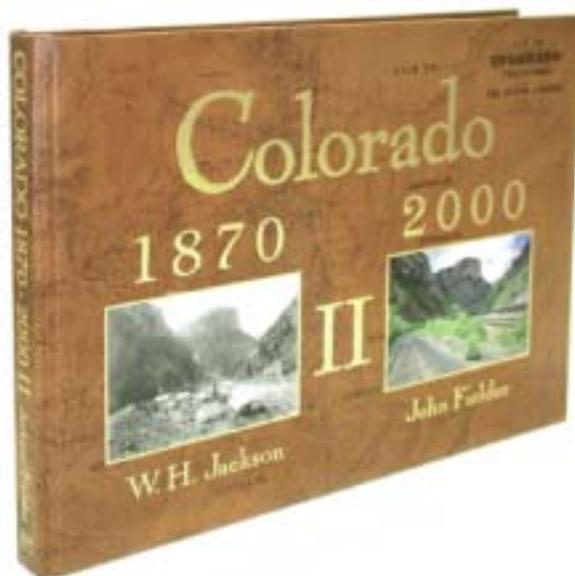
Saturday, Nov.12, at United Methodist Church of Evergreen
3757 Ponderosa Drive (across from Safeway).

Doors open at 6 p.m., presentation at 7 p.m.

Door prizes, silent auction and refreshments.

Admission: \$10, tickets available at the door.

*Advance tickets may be obtained from John Ellis at the downtown
Evergreen National Bank, or reserved by calling 303-679-3262.*



John Fielder's newest book, "Colorado 1870—2000 II," is a sequel to the best selling "Colorado 1870—2000." In 1998, Fielder drove 25,000 miles and backpacked another 500 to stand exactly where his 19th-century equivalent, William Henry Jackson, stood. From 300 different 19th-century Jackson photo locations, Fielder pointed his camera in the same direction as Jackson's to manifest the change in Colorado's landscape. Only half of the original photos made the first book. This sequel brings the rest of this dramatic story to life.

Contributing sponsors for this special evening:



Evergreen Newspapers

Beau Jo's



ETU Holiday Extravaganza

Food! Fish Stories! Fabulous Prizes!!! FUN!!!!

When: Saturday, December 3, 2005, at 5:00pm

Where: Dick Wheeler's home

Please RSVP to Dick (674-6240) or Hal (526-2900)

ETU will provide the entree and beverages.

If your last name begins with:

A - H bring an appetizer

I - Q bring a side dish (salad, veggie, etc.)

R - Z bring a dessert

To get to Dick's house (6379 Far View Lane): From the light in downtown Evergreen, take Highway 73 approximately 3 miles S towards Conifer, turn right on Cragmont, then another right onto Far View. Dick's is the second house on the left. If you're coming from Conifer, Cragmont is about 6 miles N on 73, from Highway 285.

CTU Honors Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher; John Fielder

At its annual Spring Rendezvous in Redstone on April 16, Colorado Trout Unlimited (CTU) presented its annual awards recognizing outstanding contributions to conservation. CTU's annual *Trout Conservation Award* was presented to the law firm of Gibson, Dunn, & Crutcher, LLP, recognizing their decade-long effort to protect streamflows on National Forests. John Fielder received the *Trout Communications Award* in recognition of his longstanding contributions to public education through his photography, public speaking, and publications.

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP has represented CTU and Trout Unlimited in litigation on the issue of "bypass flows" - minimum stream flow requirements below dams and diversions on National Forests. While law firms often provide some pro bono legal services, the steady commitment of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher to the Long Draw Reservoir bypass flow case has stretched for more than a decade and truly sets them apart. In 2004, the firm's long standing work paid off when a federal district court agreed that the Forest Service has both authority and responsibility to minimize harm to National Forest streams when issuing permits for water projects, something they had not done in issuing an easement for Long Draw with no bypass flow requirements.

"Tackling a difficult legal issue through the long and difficult federal court process is something we couldn't have done on our own," said CTU Executive Director David Nickum. "CTU and Colorado's streams needed a champion, and we found one in Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Their efforts will help streams on the National Forests not only in Colorado, but nationwide."

CTU presented its annual *Trout Communications Award* to renowned photographer John Fielder. Fielder is irrefutably one of the nation's foremost photographers. He has been photographing the natural world since 1973. Through his numerous publications and public speaking engagements, he has reached countless Coloradoans and visitors with his art and helped build awareness of the unique natural and scenic qualities that make Colorado special from its mountains to its rivers. Just as importantly, he has used his visibility as a top photographer as a platform from which to educate his audiences and readers about the need to conserve and protect Colorado's natural heritage. He has generously lent of his time and talents to help numerous conservation groups and environmental campaigns for the protection of Colorado rivers and wildlands.

"To view John Fielder's work is to experience his vision of places wild and beautiful, and it instills in the viewer a desire that such beauty endure forever," said Jo Evans, CTU Area Vice President. "No one has ever done a finer job of communicating environmental values and insight than John Fielder has with his incomparable photographic art."

CTU Press Release

Kudos...

...to Hal Garwood, Randy Huiting, and Ken and Michelle Wilbert for their help with the newsletter.

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

Ed.

TU and DoI To Restore Mined Lands

Trout Unlimited (TU) today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the US Department of the Interior, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSM). Through this partnership, TU and OSM will work together to protect and restore watersheds that historically supported trout populations and which now are adversely impacted by acid mine drainage from abandoned coal mines.

The drainage from abandoned coal mine sites is the single largest threat to the Appalachian environment, according to the US Environmental Protection Agency. Often laced with toxic metals and sediments, abandoned mine drainage degrades drinking water, diminishes aquatic habitat, and robs rivers of their abilities to support fish and wildlife.

In May 2005, TU released a report called "Restoring the Wealth of the Mountains: Cleaning up Appalachia's Abandoned Mines," which highlights those affected rivers and watersheds where effective clean ups are possible. TU has launched a major effort to clean up abandoned mines identified in the report and is working with public and private partners throughout the country to restore these areas. Today's MOU builds on these model clean up projects that TU and its volunteers are conducting in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Tennessee.

"This partnership represents an exciting opportunity to work with OSM to restore abandoned mine lands," said Steve Moyer, TU Vice President for Government Affairs. "Although funding is woefully scarce for restoration efforts, significant progress can be made when people work together to restore the health of the lands and waters that sustain us."

As part of today's agreement, TU and OSM agreed to jointly support the National Fish Habitat Initiative and work with partners to focus attention and resources to protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat and reverse declines in fish and other aquatic species. TU and OSM are optimistic their new partnership will lead to increased restoration of abandoned mine lands across Appalachia and elsewhere in the United States.

TU Press Release - 11/1/2005

I Wish I'd Said That...

"We are so fond of being out among nature, because it has no opinions about us." - Friedrich Nietzsche

"Bragging may not bring happiness, but no man having caught a large fish goes home through an alley." - Author Unknown

"Many men go fishing all of their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after." - Henry David Thoreau

"In every species of fish I've angled for, it is the ones that have got away that thrill me the most, the ones that keep fresh in my memory. So I say it is good to lose fish. If we didn't, much of the thrill of angling would be gone." - Ray Bergman in "The Armchair Angler"

"My biggest worry is that my wife (when I'm dead) will sell my fishing gear for what I said I paid for it." - Koos Brandt

"May the holes in your net be no larger than the fish in it." - Irish Blessing

"Do not tell fish stories where the people know you; but particularly, don't tell them where they know the fish." - Mark Twain

??? What's Happening ???

November 2005

12th (Sa) ETU PROUDLY PRESENTS

John...John...John...

Fielder...Fielder...Fielder...

7:00p at the United Methodist Church of Evergreen
Doors open at 6:00p. Book Signing! Silent Auction!
\$10 Tickets available from ETU Board members now!

16th (w) NO MEETING IN NOVEMBER
ETU Board Meeting
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

December 2005

3rd (Sa) Annual ETU Holiday Party
Dick Wheeler has graciously offered his
hospitality again this year. Details and
directions are on pg 4. Put it on your
calendar NOW!

21st (W) NO MEETING IN DECEMBER
December Board Meeting TBA

New Members

You know who you are. Unfortunately, due to technical
difficulties at NTU, we don't. Welcome to the Evergreen
Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Hope to meet you soon!

The Evergreen Trout

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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.

The Electric Evergreen Trout

If you or someone you know would like to receive the electronic
version of our newsletter (Anyone, not just TU/ETU members),
send me an e-mail and I'll get you/them on the "E" list! Remember,
the electronic version is in color, AND it saves valuable chapter
funds for other uses!!! -Tim

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