



Riffle Talk



March 2005

Volume: 20 Issue: 2

Free to Members of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Allyn Kratz

I'm Impressed!

In my last President's Piece, I suggested that each member should take his/her chapter back. After all, it belongs to you.



I received quite a number of comments about that article and I also saw it beginning to have the desired effect.

I have received e-mails from long time members wanting to become more involved and e-mails from new members volunteering their time. I observed a significant attendance increase at the February membership meeting and received lots of feed back on some new regulations that the board has been debating as ideas for us to submit to the Colorado DOW for consideration in this regulation cycle.

In order to continue this conversation I am going to insert those suggested regulation changes in this article to give all of you who did not attend the last membership meeting the opportunity to give us your feedback, insights and reactions. If you have additional ideas please submit them as we would greatly appreciate your thoughts.

Colorado Regulation changes being discussed by CMCTU for this round of the regulation cycle.

1. Changing regulations on the South Platte near Deckers from 2 fish over 16 inches to Catch and Release until such time as the

Continued on page 5

General Membership Meeting

Tue. March 22nd, 2005

6:30 PM Social

7:00 PM Meeting

Program:

Fishing the Arkansas

Greg Felt from ArkAnglers will be speaking on fishing the Arkansas with particular emphasis on taking advantage of the upcoming Blue Wing Olive and Cad-dis hatches.



We've all seen shows and read articles on the Arkansas and how it's a great river year 'round. But the two real hatches that gets everyone excited are the Caddis and, more recently, the Blue Winged Olive hatches that happen in the next few months. Greg will cover these hatches as well as the others that occur throughout the year.

April Program:

North Fork of the South Platte

The Hatch Flyshop out of Pine, CO has been rescheduled to talk about the North Fork of the South Platte - a river they describe as "a little gem." They will discuss flies, access, the best times of year and, of course, its hatches.

**THE RV AND SPORTSMAN SHOW- PHIL
LONG EXPO FEB 11,12,13.**

Bill Burd

A Special Thanks to all of the Volunteers who participated in our CMCTU Booth at the Sportsman Show. For those of you who could not make it please pass on your thanks to the members listed below who did make it.

This is the first year that the show has been at the Phil Long Expo Center and the venue change paid off very well for CMCTU. We were given a booth and then upstaged by someone who was willing to pay for the space. It at first seemed to be a questionable move; however when all was said and done we came out really well. Columbine Fly Fishers had a booth close to ours and Mike Willis was conducting some very good casting demonstrations. Mike was very gracious and mentioned CMCTU every time he started his demonstration as the Conservation organization that they should come and talk to.

We had at least three people at our booth at all times to talk to prospective members and we were pretty busy most of the time. Some who volunteered didn't even have time to go see the rest of the show. Our Rod and Reel drawing brought a lot of attention. There were a lot of people that were willing to test the rod on the Casting floor. The three free tickets that we offered for signing up for TU was a real incentive.

The real result of the show was that we were able to sign up 23 New Members and that is a first so far as I know. I do not know of any other show or program where we have been able to sign up this many new members.

Those that volunteered some precious time were:

Gary Kavanaugh and his wife Betty, Dave Koelsch, Andy Rowland, Duane Voss, Mike Davis, Rick Luce, Allyn Kratz, Gary Rogers, Mike Fatiuk, Barry Blackman, Nick Daley, Don Logelin, Carl Roberts, Bill Burd, Tom Terebus, Stephanie Scott, Greg Walck, and Sherryl Walck.

Again thank you to all who participated and helped with the signing up of new members.

**SMALL CREEKS BETWEEN COLORADO
SPRINGS AND THE ARKANSAS RIVER:
PART 1**

Ken Brown

In this two part article, Ken Brown offers some great fishing spots that are within a relatively short distance from Colorado Springs. Part two of this article will appear in the May addition of Riffle Talk.

Fountain Creek - Fountain Creek is a nice close place to go fly fishing above Manitou Springs. You can get off of Route 24 by turning left at the Cave of the Winds light and find a place to park or you could get off of Route 24 at the light and go down towards Manitou Springs where there are places to park or if you are on the way back to COS there is a parking area off to the right of Route 24 just before the Route 24 Business exit to Manitou Springs.

I've usually caught Browns there and have used bead heads.

Rampart Range Reservoir - This is a convenient place to go though it is a pay to play area and I have fished the inlet and had good success and have taken my sons there and caught fish with dries. I have always wanted to take a belly boat there but haven't had the chance to do it yet.

Lake Manitou - Lake Manitou is a nice place to go (requires a fee or pass) and do some dry fly fishing or belly boating. It is stocked by the CDOW during the summer and you can catch a number of fish there in a short period of time on a good day.

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Riffle Talk
Published by:
Cheyenne Mountain Chapter
of Trout Unlimited

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Riffle Talk
 Cheyenne Mountain Chapter, Trout Unlimited
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Subscription Rates:

Non-members of CMCTU can subscribe to "Riffle Talk" for \$15.00/year. Please make your checks payable to Cheyenne Mountain Chapter, Trout Unlimited, and mail to the above address.

Advertising Rates:

TU Members: Advertise your used fishing equipment or other items in these pages; up to five lines, \$5.00/issue (\$1/additional line).

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DEADLINE for contributions and change of ads is the first of the month of the current newsletter printing. Riffletalk is distributed in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Members receive postcards in alternate months.

RIFFLE TALK is a non-profit publication of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited.

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WILDLIFE COMMISSION APPROVES EMERGENCY FISHING CLOSURE FOR PORTION OF BOULDER CREEK

The Colorado Wildlife Commission recently approved an emergency regulation closing a two-and-one-half mile stretch of Boulder Creek northeast of Boulder to fishing to reduce the risk of anglers accidentally moving exotic New Zealand mudsnails to other streams and lakes.

The closure, approved last week during a Commission meeting, is effective immediately and will remain in place for 90 days for the portion of Boulder Creek between Valmont Road and 95th Street.

"We are taking this action as a precaution because of the threat this invasive species presents to native wildlife and Colorado's streams," said Eric Hughes, the DOW's aquatic wildlife manager.

Mudsnails, tiny mollusks first found in North America more than a decade ago, were discovered in Boulder Creek where it flows under 61st Street last November by an observant angler who had recently read about the tiny invasive species. The angler showed the snails to a University of Colorado scientist who confirmed they were New Zealand mudsnails. The men then informed DOW aquatic managers who confirmed the presence of mudsnails in Boulder Creek.

A subsequent inspection found that a nearby private trout rearing unit adjacent to the portion of Boulder Creek was also infested with mudsnails. That facility has been drained and the trout on the facility were destroyed to help prevent the snail from moving to other streams and lakes.

In some North American waters the mudsnails have taken advantage of the lack of predators to rapidly expand, clogging streambeds and crowding out native invertebrate species. The snails are so small that hundreds of thousands can cover a square meter of streambed.

Mudsnails can survive for weeks in dried mud and hitchhike to new streams on fishing equipment, boats, clothing, and even on the feathers of waterfowl. The tiny snails are capable of curling up tightly within their tiny shells and passing through the gut of a

trout unharmed, taking up residence wherever the trout may swim or be transported.

DOW aquatic managers are concerned about other exotic species, too, including zebra mussels, predatory snakehead fish and other exotic mollusks reaching Colorado.

Wildlife commissioners agreed that over the next several months, the DOW should develop new regulations to better allow agency managers to effectively deal with invasive species. Options include immediate closure of waters to fishing and hunting, closure of fish rearing units, prohibitions on moving fish, and thorough public information efforts to inform people on how best to avoid inadvertently moving exotic species into or around Colorado.

"During the next three months, the DOW will be working on a statewide management plan designed to stop or slow down the spread of New Zealand mudsnails," said Robin Knox, the aquatic biologist heading up the agency's invasive species work.

For more information about New Zealand mudsnails, visit <http://wildlife.state.co.us/aquatic/nuisances/hitchhikers/newzealandmudsnail.asp>



SMALL CREEKS CONT.

Trout Creek - Trout Creek flows out of Lake Manitou and has nice spots to fish. I remember when I first moved out here and was fishing one evening and was scared by a beaver hitting its tail on the water. You can fish upstream to Lake Manitou or you can fish downstream from the parking area.

The last I heard when Lake Manitou was drained the Beaver dams were washed out 2 years ago but I haven't been by there since. It is within short drive of Lake Manitou off of Route 67 there is a nice parking place where you turn off to go to the Manitou Research Center.

The fishing has been best using bead heads and dries matching the hatch.

West Creek - West Creek is another noteworthy creek runs along Route 67 on the way to Deckers that I have fished and that has produced before but after the Hayman fire it has badly silted in and I have not fished there since the fire. If you are driving by and have a few spare minutes give them a shot and let me know how you did.

Bead heads and dries have produced results here.

Horse Creek - Horse Creek runs along Route 67 the last few miles on your way to Deckers and has produced some great fishing in the past with its runs and beaver ponds. This is another creek that is also badly silted in because of the Hayman fire and I have not fished it after the fire.

Bead heads and dries have produced results here.

Mueller State Park & Dome Rock State Wildlife Area - There is a very good area to fish in the back of Mueller if you know where to go. To get there you need to take Route 67 toward Cripple Creek and take a right turn off of 67 when you see the fish ponds on your right, about a mile. Continue until you see the sign for Mueller Wildlife Area access on the right where there is a parking lot. This area doesn't open until July 16th.

Rig up and hit the trailhead and Dome Rock is on your left. You are on the series of

trails that go through Mueller with the creek on your left there are a number of boulders and beaver ponds that run through-out Mueller and they are habitat for all sizes of Brookies.

Bead heads, dries and streamers have been productive there.

Beaver Creek - flows out of Skaguay Reservoir and is a great place to fish. You will see old antique wooden pipes at different places along the creek that were used by the mining industry. There are Rainbows, a few Browns and Brookies that populate the stream and the further you get away from the reservoir the better the fishing becomes.

The last time there in mid December I hiked about 4 miles down the creek and caught 6 fish and had 3 that were longer than 10 inches. The further you walk down stream the better the water looks.

To get there go to Victor and take Phantom Canyon Rd. south look for the Skaguay sign take the road on the left.

I have had the best fishing with bead heads and brassies here.

PRESIDENT'S PIECE CONT.

biology supports a return to the 2 fish over 16 inches regulation.

2. Declaration of all streams that meet the DOW "Wild Trout" criterion as Wild Trout waters.
3. Expansion of Catch and Release regulations in Eleven Mile Canyon downstream to Eleven Mile Picnic Grounds.
4. Restrict the use of treble hooks in catch and release waters.
5. Require fishing licenses be displayed on the outside of ones clothing while fishing.

Please send your thoughts, reactions and ideas to me at: allynk@adelphia.net

This is your organization! What is it you want it to stand for?

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MISSION STATEMENT

Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited

The Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited strives to **conserve, protect and restore** our cold-water fisheries resources and their watersheds. THIS IS ITS SOLE MISSION. THESE GOALS ARE TROUT UNLIMITED'S REASON FOR BEING!

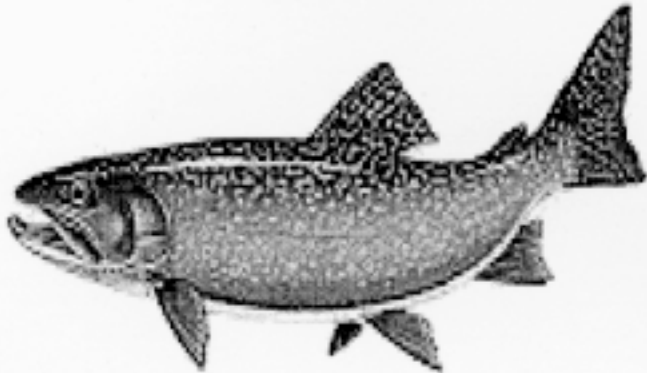
To achieve these goals, to participate in this mission, members:

1. Support and promote fisheries and water-resource policies that further these goals.
 2. Work actively on conservation projects, volunteering labor and expertise, often in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Colorado Wildlife and conservation agencies.
 3. Seek to influence the decisions of such agencies as well as those of wildlife commissioners, legislative committees and elected officials in general.
 4. Foster ethical and sensible conservation practices among users of the cold-water resource.
 5. Attend the regular membership meetings of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited.
 6. Elect to the Chapter's Board of Directors members who will provide direction and strong leadership.
 7. Contribute financially to build and maintain the Chapter's fiscal stability.
-

NOTICE FOR VOLUNTEERS WITH CHANGE OF EMAIL ADDRESS

A note to those of you who may have changed e-mail addresses and are no longer receiving the notices for Volunteer activities and work days.

If you are not receiving the notices sent out by William Burd concerning projects and would like to stay informed please call me at 590-6615 or email me at BJEAGLE@worldnet.att.net so that I can get your updated email. I have been deleting those that bounce back from the notices I send. It's up to you when you change email addresses.



UPDATING YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION WITH TU

When you go to the National TU website, www.tu.org, go to the tab at the top entitled "Members", then drop down to "Membership Services", key in your TO# and your last name and then choose "Membership Information". If you change your address, you can then choose to stay in the chapter you are presently in (by checking the override button) or you will be assigned by zip code. If neither of these options are what you want, then you need to call our customer service number at 1-800-834-2419 to ask for a new chapter affiliation that is outside the zip code assignment. This is also the place for members to change their addresses and update their information.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

CMCTU member Melvin Freeley won the Rod Raffle to benefit Trees For Trout. Melvin also took home the one day pass for two anglers to Arrowhead Fly Fishing Ranch after outbidding the competition. Thanks for supporting CMCTU Melvin!



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Volume: 20, Issue: 2 Published Bi-Monthly Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov/Dec



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For over 40 years, Trout Unlimited has been America's leading trout and salmon conservation organization, dedicated to conserving, protecting, and restoring coldwater fisheries and their watersheds. Whether we're planning and building stream improvement projects, working with government to protect our rivers and streams, or teaching young people the importance of protecting wild fish and their habitat, TU members are actively engaged in preserving our vital natural resources.

Your next Riffle Talk newsletter will arrive in May!!!

Trout Unlimited's mission is to conserve, protect, and restore North America's coldwater fisheries and their watersheds.