



Riffle Talk



Mar. / Apr. 2006

Volume: 21 Issue: 2

Free to Members of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Allyn Kratz

What is CMCTU up to???

As members of this chapter, it is my belief that each of you has a right to know what your leaders are up to and to be provided the opportunity to become involved and to help us accomplish even bigger and better things.



By now I am sure you have all heard and possibly participated in the Trees for Trout project. This is where trees from the Hayman fire are being placed in the South Platte as well as other streams to narrow the flow, increase the speed, remove silt and increase the habitat. Last year a great deal of work was performed in Elevenmile Canyon on this project thanks to a grant from the U.S. Forest Service. Some of our work on this project was not finished due to the stream flows last fall. As a result, we will be finishing this work this spring. The first work day is scheduled for April 8th. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please contact Bill Burd at bjeagle@worldnet.att.net or 719-590-6615.

A section of the steam in Elevenmile Canyon that has not been part of the Trees for Trout Project is the Boy Scout's Camp Alexander section. Recently we have been notified by the National Trout Unlimited, Embrace a Stream program that CMCTU has been awarded a \$4000.00 grant to be used in expanding this program onto this section of the South Platte. A great number of hours went into writing this grant and we all are pleased with this award.

CMCTU has also been involved in obtaining a

grant to protect the Greenbacks discovered in the North Taylor Creek near Westcliffe. This grant will be use to install a barrier on the stream to protect the Greenbacks from being invaded by non-native species and finding themselves in direct competition with these species. We will be working to expand the habitat area for these endangered trout so that the population will increase in size to the point that they can be used to populate other streams. This summer CMCTU will be working with the DOW to expand the range of some of our Greenback populations by transporting them to streams that have been identified as good candidates. Watch for opportunities to participate in this work.

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MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Where: The Retired Enlisted Association
834 Emory Circle (Emory Circle is the first light north of Platte on Murray Blvd.)

When: Tues., Mar. 28th
6:30 PM Social
7:00 PM Meeting

Program: The guest speaker for the March 28 meeting of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited will be Landon Mayers. He will be giving a presentation on "Opportunities for Trophy Trout in Colorado". Landon has been a guide for over 9 years and has guided on the South Platte and in Alaska. He is a certified casting instructor and he has written numerous articles for various publications. He is currently working on a book titles "How to Catch the Biggest Trout of Your Life" due out this fall. He currently holds the state catch and release record with the IGFA for the largest brown trout caught on 4 lb. test.

PRESIDENT'S PIECE CONT.

Severy Creek and Bear Creek have been long time projects of this chapter. Unfortunately, the required hurdles to be passed have delayed much of our work on these two needy streams. CMCTU has implemented water testing on these streams through the DOW's River-watch program. This August we will reach the one year anniversary of this testing. With this data, it is hoped that we can add additional protections to these waters. In addition, CMCTU has been awarded a \$9000.00 grant from NTU's Embrace a Stream program to improve the habitat on these to Greenback waters. These improvements will require a lot of people power as heavy equipment is not an option on these streams.

I have previously written about the Mill Sap Mine tailing issue above Four Mile Creek near Victor and Cripple Creek. At that time we were trying to work with some other agencies in obtaining a \$900,000.00 grant to deal with this issue of these tailings entering the waterway and destroying the habitat of this stream.

That effort was not successful. Recently however, we have been informed that through the BLM and the Colorado Division of Mines, some grant money has been awarded. There is still a need for about \$150,000.00 to \$200,000.00 to be awarded so that the project can be completed. Your CMCTU Board has agreed to take on this task. This is a longer term project with the goal being that we would begin the actual work in 2007. The nature of this project is such that once it is begun, the time to complete it is very limited. Weather events in the middle of this project could be devastating. I will attempt to keep you informed of our progress as we proceed down this road. Any of you who would be interested in helping are invited to contact me at allynk@adelphia.net.



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Photo by Joe Chiaro

CMCTU will also be participating in our usual activities this year and we would expect many of you to volunteer for this as well. Youth activities such as Huck Finn day in Manitou Springs, Boy Scout merit badge work, River Clean up, Public awareness events, and speaker's bureau outings. Volunteers are welcome!!!!



Example of the damage done to Four Mile Creek near Victor and Cripple Creek.

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Cheyenne Mountain Chapter
of Trout Unlimited



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We solicit reader's contributions in the form of guest editorials, fly tier's corner, letters-to-the-editor, cartoons, jokes, etc. ALL materials are subject to editing. We prefer text submissions in any PC format on a 3.5 diskette, which will be returned. Photographs and other graphics should be of sufficient resolution and contrast that they can be printed as-is. The fastest way to contact the editor is by e-mail to tterebus@yahoo.com. You can also send your contributions to:

Riffle Talk
Cheyenne Mountain Chapter, Trout Unlimited
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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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HELP PROTECT COLORADO'S BACKCOUNTRY FISHERIES!

*Support protection of National Forest
Roadless Areas*

Roadless areas on our National Forests are some of the last, best habitats for fish and wildlife - but these areas are at risk! A state task force will be making recommendations that may determine whether roadless areas are protected, or opened up for development and road building. We need to weigh in to speak for the fisheries that depend on backcountry habitat.

You can familiarize yourself with the issues and process by visiting the website www.keystone.org/html/roadless_areas_task_force.html. Then please take a moment to write a brief letter to the Roadless Taskforce, or file your comments online using the Public Comment Form on the roadless website. It is a good idea to state which forest or forests are most important to you and why, and express your desire to maintain roadless status there in perpetuity. General and specific comments are both needed, so if there are areas on specific forests that are of special interest to you, name those areas, streams and watersheds and explain their value. Letters needn't be long or detailed - just be clear and speak your mind!

Additionally, you can attend your local Roadless Taskforce meeting and let your thoughts be known. Some historic background on the roadless rule and Colorado's task force appears below, including some information you may find useful for your comments.

Upcoming Roadless Area Review Taskforce Public Meetings:

Denver, Feb. 24, 2006 (for general public input, not specific to any forest)

Fort Collins, March 17 (Arapaho/Roosevelt)
Steamboat Springs, May 18 (Routt)
Monte Vista, June 7 (Rio Grande)
Glenwood Springs, June 21 (White River/Manti
la Sal)

Mail cards and letters to:

The Keystone Center
Attn: Roadless Areas Review
1628 Sts. John Rd.
Keystone, CO 80435

ANGLERS ROUNDTABLE SET FOR CO. SPRINGS

The Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW) will host an angler forum in Colorado Springs to discuss the outlook for the 2006 fishing season.

DOW fisheries biologists will give a preview on the best bets for warmwater and trout fishing in Southeast Colorado and South Park. "This annual meeting has become very popular for anglers who are anxious to go fishing and learn about prospects for fishing in 2006," according to Doug Krieger, Senior Fishery Biologist for the Southeast Region.

DOW biologists will also be prepared to answer questions and provide information on fish populations in regional lakes and streams, stocking plans, reservoir water levels and stream flows, whirling disease, status of greenback cutthroat trout, high lake fishing, and changes to 2006 fishing regulations and license fees.

"Anglers are asked to come eager to talk about fishing in the Arkansas and Upper South Platte basins, and bring their questions, ideas and suggestions," encouraged Krieger. "We will have a great opportunity to share some information and ideas."

The meeting will be held at the DOW Office, 4255 Sinton Road, Colorado Springs, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 6.



"Often I have been exhausted on trout streams, uncomfortable, wet, cold, briar scarred, sunburned, mosquito bitten, but never, with a fly rod in my hand have I been less than in a place that was less than beautiful." - **Charles Kuralt**

FLY OF THE MONTH - MODIFIED EMERGENT SPARKLE PUPA

by Dan Snow



Let me say up front that I have Miserable luck with patterns designed by Gary LaFontaine. Most of his patterns are tied so, to put it lightly, differently, that I'm never sure if I've tied the fly correctly. I know they work (just ask Lou Martin) so it must be my tying.

One of those patterns is the Emergent Sparkle Pupa, which imitates the caddis pupa in the surface film as it attempts to split its shuck. Its near universal acceptance shows its effectiveness on the stream, whereas my near universal failure with this pattern shows my ineffectiveness at the vice. Between the touch-dubbing and (in particular) the pupal shuck tied with a 360 degree overbody, I clearly wasn't doing something right.

Then one day at the Angler's Covey I saw their version of this pattern. It was obviously not touch-dubbed and the overbody was only over the top half of the fly. The thought here was probably that with the fish looking up, you don't need the full 3-D effect of the entire overbody. The top half is good enough.

I bought a few and went to Elevenmile Canyon. There had been a lot of caddis activity and an Elk Hair Caddis was only picking up one out of every four or five rising fish. That first trip was great! Whenever I made a decent presentation I had a take. The next time I went, I tried some that I had tied (the real test for this column). They worked! Amazing.

Modified Emergent Sparkle Pupa

Overbody: Sparkle Yarn
Underbody: Dubbed Antron or Haretron
Wing : Deer or elk hair
Head: dubbed Hare's Ear

1. tie in the sparkle yarn at the tail end of the hook
2. dub the underbody two-thirds of the shank length
3. Pull the overbody over the top loosely and tie down
4. Cut a few strands of the overbody so



they form a trailing shuck

5. tie in a wing like an Elk Hair Caddis, only sparser
6. dub the head

Using deer hair for the wing is more realistic, but the elk hair is easier to see. I'm not saying that this style is as effective as the original (tied properly), but it does work and is easier to tie.

SPECIAL THANKS

The Board of Directors of Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited would like to thank the following members for their support of the Spring 2006 contribution to the chapter. Thanks to your support, the chapter has weathered the fiscal crisis it faced at the end of last year.

George T. Anthony
Clarence Newberry
John L. Demmon
Madeline Overturf
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Robert R. Shanks
James Flynn
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Smith
Michael A. King
Bill Staeben
Don & Carol Kryder
Tim Trunnel
Gil Moore
Dr. Larry Wiseman, DVM

These members are an example of those who have gone above and beyond the call of duty for their chapter. We heartily thank you for your contributions to our cold water resource.

Richard Luce
VP Development
Cheyenne Mountain Chapter Trout Unlimited

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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** 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:

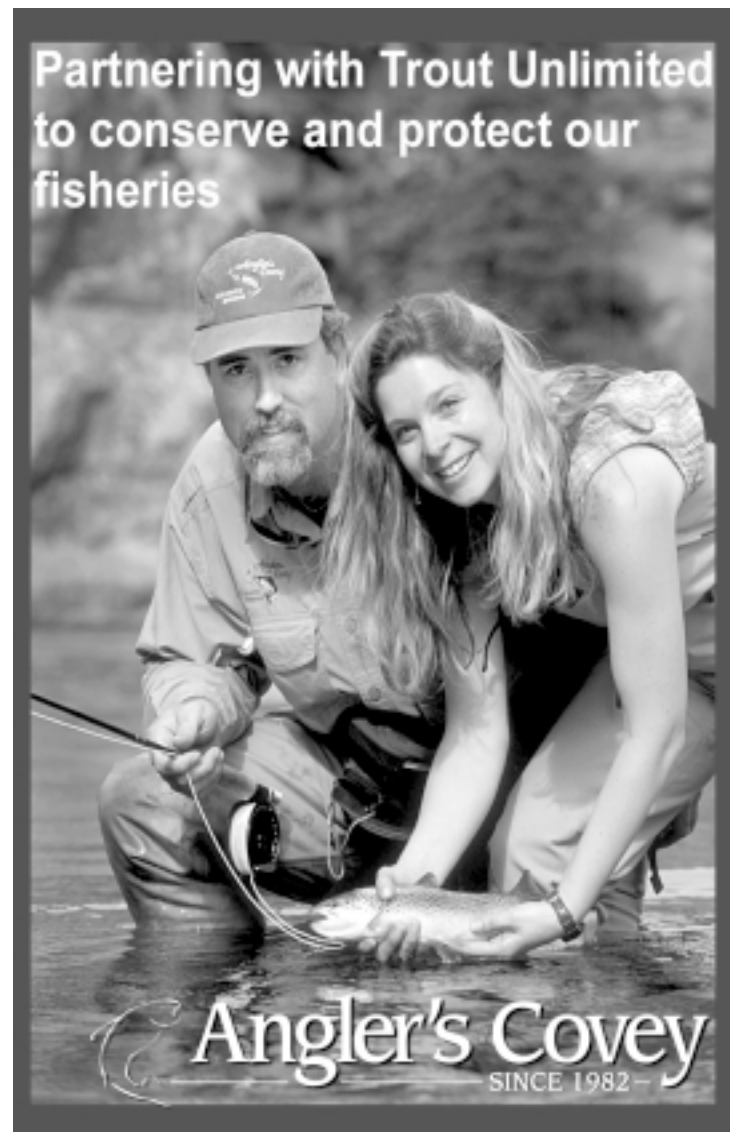
1. Support and promote fisheries and water-resource policies that further these goals.
2. Work actively on conservation projects, volunteering labor and expertise, often in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Colorado Wildlife and conservation agencies.
3. Seek to influence the decisions of 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.

PROMOTING CATCH & RELEASE REGULATIONS

Every five years, the Colorado Wildlife Commission reviews and adopts the fishing regulations that will govern anglers statewide. In September 2005, they adopted the new regulations for 2006-2010, and CTU helped secure some important new protections for Colorado's trout fisheries:

- Artificial fly and lure waters will no longer allow the use of scented lures - which, like bait, are more often swallowed by fish leading to greater hooking mortality. Low hooking mortality is vital to keeping fish populations healthy in special reg waters.
- Catch-and-release regulations were adopted for the North Fork Poudre River below Seaman Reservoir.
- Three miles of special regulation water were added on the Gunnison River.
- Fly and lure only, catch and release regulations were added for numerous Rio Grande cutthroat and Colorado River cutthroat streams throughout the state.

These new regulations will help better protect Colorado's wild and native trout fisheries and promote more quality fishing.





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support!!!

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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!!!