



# Riffle Talk



Nov. / Dec. 2006

Volume: 21 Issue: 6

Free to Members of the Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited

## PRESIDENT'S PIECE

Allyn Kratz

A Gift of Greenbacks.

Tis the Season, Right? Most of you know that this chapter of Trout Unlimited has taken a population of Greenback Cutthroat Trout under our wing. We have forged a special bond and a big brother's attitude toward the Greenback Population in Severy Creek, a small stream on the north face of Pikes Peak.



We, as a chapter of Trout Unlimited, have worked to improve the habitat on this stream for this trout species, built a barrier on the stream to protect this small population from invasive species such as Brook Trout and we have fought and lobbied to keep the trail that travels much of the length of this stream closed to public use in order to protect the trout from exposure to whirling disease and mud snail invasions and sampled the water on a monthly basis to test for quality so as to establish a base of data to be used to protect the quality in the future.

You might not be aware of the gift we have received recently in return. Up until recently the DNA testing of Greenback trout could not determine the difference between a West Slope Colorado River Cutthroat Trout and an East Slope Greenback Cutthroat trout. This testing was based on Mitochondrial DNA testing.

In August of this year, results were released by geneticist from the University of Colorado with confirming results from the University of New Mexico which turned things

upside down in the Greenback World. While a great deal more testing and sampling must take place before anyone is willing to draw any final conclusions, but these initial

Cont. on pg 5

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING

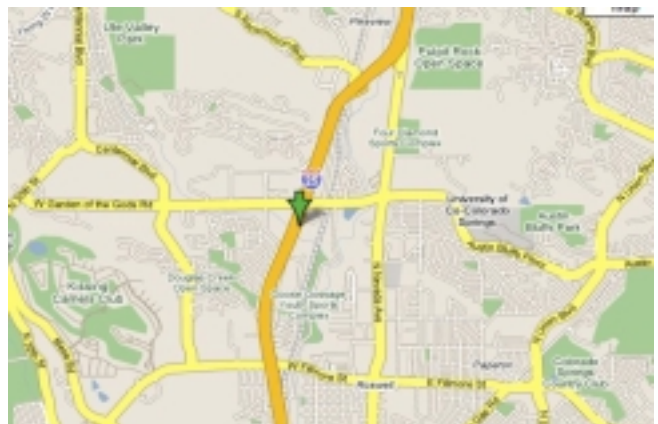
The speaker for the January 23, 2007 meeting will be Landon Mayers. Landon is a well known guide and author of many articles on site fishing techniques for trophy trout. He is currently releasing a new DVD and will be coming out with a book titled "How to Catch the Biggest Trout of Your Life" available in February.

### **WHEN:**

Tuesday, January 23rd, 2007  
6:30 Social  
7:00 Meeting

### **NEW LOCATION:**

4255 Sinton Road

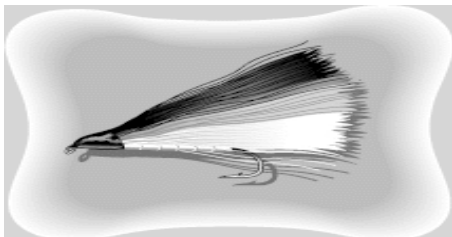


## YEAR END DONATION CAMPAIGN

CMCTU is again requesting a \$10 tax-deductible donation from every chapter member to support stream projects next year. Your chapter has been asked to support large environmental issues in our local area that include the Mill Sap mine tailings mitigation (\$850k) and the Happy Meadows campground bank stabilization (\$175k) projects. While your board of directors is actively seeking grants in support of these projects, your help is needed to provide matching funds required by some of those grants.

Our chapter membership is currently at 600 members. This could result in \$6000 of grant seed money if our chapter membership responds. Please be advised that your local chapter no longer receives any portion of your membership renewal dues from Trout Unlimited. This tax deductible donation would provide financial support directly to your local chapter.

Donations by check can be mailed to our Post Office Box 458, Colorado Springs CO 80901 and please indicate it is for our year end campaign on the memo line. Or you can go to our website [www.cmctu.org](http://www.cmctu.org) and click on the Make a Donation button on the left side of the home page to pay by credit card. Your support of this request would be greatly appreciated by your volunteer board and would go a long way in supporting the mission of Trout Unlimited: to **conserve, protect and restore** cold-water fisheries, resources and their watersheds.



Need reliable and affordable  
**Conference Call services?**

Don't get left out in the cold!



We are your local provider of:

- \*Audio Conferencing
- \*Web Conferencing
  
- \*Conference Recording
- \*Conference Editing
  
- \*PowerPoint Services
- \*Transcription Services

[www.audiofilesolutions.com](http://www.audiofilesolutions.com)  
719)477-9600  
877)AFS-FILE

Photo by Joe Chiaro

## 2007 EQUIPMENT RAFFLE ITEMS

Last year we raffled off a Winston BIIx and Galvan reel. The winner was Henry Telez who lives in Hartsel. The equipment raffle was our major 2006 fundraiser for the chapter.

CMCTU will again hold a fly fishing equipment raffle for 2007, thanks to the generous contribution of our sponsors. The raffle starts in January and the drawing will be held at the June membership meeting. Our equipment raffle has expanded this year. The 2007 raffle includes the items listed below:

Sage Z-Axis 11' 5 wt 4 pc fly rod, donated by Angler's Covey  
Ross Evolution 2 copper fly reel, donated by The Peak Fly Shop  
Fishpond Cloudburst gear bag, donated by Gillies Fly Shop  
Gift card worth \$200, donated by Sportsman's Warehouse.

The retail value of this package is approximately \$1350. Please thank all of our sponsors for their donation and support of Trout Unlimited in achieving our conservation goals.

**Riffle Talk**  
**Published by:**  
**Cheyenne Mountain Chapter**  
**of Trout Unlimited**



**Board of Directors 2006-2007**

	<u>Home</u>	<u>Work</u>
President: Allyn Kratz	632-6489	635-5694
VP Development: Greg Walck	351-2076	533-8775
VP Membership: Denny Immer		
VP Projects: Sam Humpert		
VP Publicity: Vacant		
VP Comm: Tom Terebus	633-5163	556-2719
VP Resources: Dan Snow	687-9576	556-3704
VP Programs: Dan Logelin	686-8940	590-5613
Dir At Large: Jack Hunter		
Dir At Large: Carl Roberts	392-8082	392-8082
Dir At Large: Jim Williams	528-8314	303-971-2550
Treasurer: Sherryl Walck	596-2965	
Secretary: Barry Wilson	550-1487	
Webmaster: Gary Almeida	570-0267	531-5413

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](mailto:tterebus@yahoo.com). You can also send your contributions to:

*Riffle Talk*  
*Cheyenne Mountain Chapter, Trout Unlimited*  
*P.O. Box 458*  
*Colorado Springs, CO 80901-0458*

**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).


**Commercial Rates:**

Half Pg.	\$80/issue	\$385 - 6 issues
Quarter Pg.	\$30/issue	\$150 - 6 issues
Eighth Pg.	\$15/issue	\$80 - 6 issues
Supporter Pg.	\$10/issue	\$50 - 6 issues

**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.

## The Donut Mill



Apple Fritters, Twists  
 Yummy donuts: Double Chocolate,  
 Old Fashioned Buttermilk, and Yeast  
 Raised Muffins: Healthy & Not so  
 Healthy Delicious biscuits and gravy.

Open at 5 a.m.  
 Woodland Park

## COLORADO CUTTHROAT LISTING

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is currently soliciting information regarding the Colorado River cutthroat trout (CRCT) and its status, to determine whether the subspecies should be listed under the Endangered Species Act. CTU will be submitting comments including information we have about the species, its status, and threats it faces - along with our recommendation against listing the CRCT and instead continuing to implement a three-state Conservation Plan and Agreement that has been developed by the state fish and wildlife agencies for Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming.

The current status review stems from a federal court case, where the Center for Biological Diversity (which petitioned for the CRCT to be listed in 1999) argued that the USFWS in reviewing their petition had considered information only from agencies opposed to listing rather than doing a complete review of the available information. The court agreed, and ordered to the USFWS to conduct a new review and issue a finding as to whether listing was warranted or not under the Endangered Species Act.

When the CRCT was first petitioned for listing, CTU had signed onto the tri-state Conservation Agreement as a supporting party, and joined the states in proposing the agreement as a more appropriate approach than listing for this particular species. Since that time, the states have made some important progress in gathering and managing data for CRCT conservation, in protecting key habitats, and in some sites restoring CRCTs to new habitats. At the same time, the boom in oil and gas development has created a larger threat to the CRCT in significant portions of its range, in watersheds like Colorado's Piecance Basin. National Trout Unlimited's report on oil and gas development indicates that 20% of the CRCT's range occurs in lands that are open for oil and gas leasing. For some specific habitats the threat is clear - for example, the BLM acknowledges that their Roan Plateau oil and gas plan could lead to the extirpation of conservation populations of CRCT on the Roan Plateau.

CTU will be submitting comments and data highlighting these concerns and urging the USFWS to work with its partner federal agencies to address them. However, we continue to support the tri-state program as a

viable means for conserving and restoring the CRCT in lieu of endangered species listing. Listing could exacerbate problems in working with private landowners - a major concern for the CRCT, which occurs in areas with significant private landholdings. It could also jeopardize the momentum that has been built already through the tri-state program. Of course, continued vigilance is needed to ensure that progress does not falter in protecting this important native fish.

To learn more about this issue and how you can comment to USFWS, visit [www.cotrout.org](http://www.cotrout.org).

## BLACK CANYON VICTORY

In September, Trout Unlimited's Colorado Water Project won a monumental legal victory over a short-sighted U.S. Department of the Interior plan, which would have decimated the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and its world-famous trout fishery.

In 2003, the Department of the Interior and the State of Colorado reached an agreement regarding seasonal stream flows in the Black Canyon. This agreement required the U.S. Department of the Interior to waive the federal government's right to seasonal water flows, leaving the park with only a base flow of 300cfs. The agreement flew in the face of Interior's own science, which clearly demonstrated that the seasonal peak flows are critical to the park's trout fishery and other natural resources.

TU and several of its conservation partners challenged the agreement in federal court, arguing, among other things, that it constituted a violation of Interior's obligation to preserve the natural resources of the Black Canyon National Park. The court sided with Trout Unlimited and our allies, ruling that the agreement would impair the environment of the Black Canyon and that Interior's decision was an "abuse of discretion" and "nonsensical." *The New York Times* noted that the agreement would have left nothing of the Black Canyon but "dramatic cliffs with a dying river between."

After ruling that the Department of the Interior had acted illegally and invalidating the 2003 agreement with the state, the federal court remanded the decision to the Park Service with the instruction that it

take action to come into compliance with the law. As a practical matter, this means that the Park Service is required to secure the Black Canyon water right in a form that will preserve the natural resources - including the trout fishery - of the national park. The Park Service must now decide whether to return to state water court or to negotiate with affected interests, including the water users, the State of Colorado and the conservation groups to seek a resolution that preserves the national park while accommodating the concerns of all stakeholders.

The court's ruling sets TU on the path toward permanent protection of stream flows in the Black Canyon and may prove to be a valuable precedent as Trout Unlimited's Western Water Project works to protect flows in rivers and streams across the region - and the trout and salmon that depend on them.

### **PRESIDENT PIECE CONT.**

results suggest that the Greenback Cutthroat Trout Population found in Severy Creek is the genetically purest in the state. These results also show that some of the populations in Colorado previously thought to be pure actually have genes that could indicate they have been hybridized with Colorado River Cutthroat.

To add to the excitement of these findings, the population of Greenback Cutthroat Trout found in Bear Creek and those found in the North Taylor Creek near Westcliffe were found to be very similar genetically but different from both the Colorado River Cutthroat and the Severy Creek Greenback Cutthroat Trout. The Bear Creek Greenback population is also under the protection of this Chapter.

As a result of these preliminary findings, these two populations have become even more important and in need of even greater protections and improvements to their habitat. I believe we in this chapter are up to the task.

Another gift this chapter has received this year is a great board of directors and I want to thank each and every one of them for agreeing to not only serve but for the great energy and ideas that are flowing from them as we develop our plans for a very active and exciting 2007.

I also want to thank each and every one of

you who have joined our chapter for the first time and for those of you that have renewed your membership. 2007 is going to be a very busy year for your chapter and I will be looking to you not only for your membership but also for your time and financial support.

I want you all to have a wonder holiday season and hope you take the time to sit down with your fishing equipment and dream of great times on your favorite stream. I know that I will.

### **FLY OF THE MONTH - THE MIRACLE NYMPH**



This month's Fly of the Month is a fly which most everybody who has fished the South Platte is familiar with - the Miracle Nymph. This is an imitation of a midge larva, in other words, a fly I can't see. But as sure as they water lawns in Denver, the flows in the tail waters of the South Platte will be high. And, as Ed Engle notes in his book Flyfishing the Tailwaters, these high waters knock loose millions of midge larva on these stretches. The fish don't ignore this; you shouldn't either.

The miracle is tied as follows:

Body: White Floss, somewhat sparse

Rib: Silver wire

Thread : Color of choice

How the Miracle Nymph gets its name is open to debate. I've heard one story in which someone was really doing well with the fly in Cheeseman Canyon. When the successful fisherman was asked what he was using, he presented this fly. One of the other fisherman exclaimed that "It's a miracle that a fly like that could catch a fish!" and thus the fly was named.

I think the name comes from the fact that the fly changes color when you fish it. The white floss becomes translucent when wet and the color of the fly is determined by the color of the thread. A fly tied with green thread is olive when wet, black thread produces a nice blue dun fly, and orange will yield a nice rusty brown. You can (and should) experiment with this yourself. Or maybe it is spelled Miracle and this is all garbage. All I know is that this fly works well in the tail waters on the South Platte.

# FRIENDS OF TROUT UNLIMITED - CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN CHAPTER

Please support the Colorado Businesses that support us!



**BARRY A. BLACKMAN**  
Certified Public Accountant

P.O. Box 945  
285 Park Street

(719) 488-3660  
Palmer Lake, CO 80133



**COLUMBINE**  
**KITCHEN & BATH**

701-B S. Santa Fe  
Castle Rock, CO 80104  
(303) 688-4199  
Fax: (303) 688-4059

**Rich Kuehster**  
Owner

**Folk Art Gallery**  
custom framing  
and gifts

Kelly & Lucy McGuire      251 Front Street • Suite 7  
719-481-8552                  Monument, Colorado 80132



## NOTHING HELPS A COMMUNITY LIKE TEAMWORK

When the people around here work together,  
there's nothing we can't accomplish.  
We're proud to be part of the local team.

**WELLS FARGO** Member FDIC      [wellsfargo.com](http://wellsfargo.com)      ©2000 Wells Fargo Bank West, N.A.

*11 locations serving the Pikes Peak Region*



**Bob Hamel**

GUIDED FLOAT FISHING  
ARKANSAS RIVER  
GUNNISON GORGE

PO Box 337  
Cotopaxi, CO 81223

(719) 942-4362  
(800) 321-4352  
Email: [art@amigo.net](mailto:art@amigo.net)

Web: [arkansasrivertours.com](http://arkansasrivertours.com)



**Jeff Leidigh - Realtor**

**Heritage Realty**  
5265 N. Academy Blvd., Ste. 3300  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

**E-Mail:** [jeffrey.leidigh@ppar.com](mailto:jeffrey.leidigh@ppar.com)

**CELL/VM:** (719) 205-2846

**OFFICE:** (719) 548-0400

**FAX:** (719) 548-9475



## **Arrowhead Ranch** "South Park's Finest Fly Fishing!"

Private, Exclusive, Membership Only!  
Lodging, 4 Large Lakes and 7 miles of the South Fork  
of the South Platte River west of Hwy. 285!

Scott & Lois Saunders  
(719) 448-0267

1221 Hermosa Way  
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

e-mail: [rssriparian@adelphia.net](mailto:rssriparian@adelphia.net)

cell: (719) 660-4532



# Mission Statement

Cheyenne Mountain Chapter  
of Trout Unlimited

The Cheyenne Mountain Chapter of Trout Unlimited strives to **conserve, protect and re-store** 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.



## FISHERMAN'S CREED

Early to Bed,  
Early to Rise.  
Fish Like Hell  
and Make Up Lies.





Cheyenne Mountain Chapter  
Trout Unlimited  
P.O. Box 458  
Colorado Springs, Co  
80901

NON-PROFIT  
ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**

Colo. Springs, CO  
Permit No. 202

Volume: 21, Issue: 6 Published Bi-Monthly Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov/Dec



If your membership has expired,  
you can renew your membership at  
[WWW.TU.ORG](http://WWW.TU.ORG). We appreciate your  
support!!!

**FYI:** CMCTU RIFFLETALK NEWSLETTERS AND NEWSCARDS WILL ONLY BE AVAILABLE ON OUR [WWW.CMCTU.ORG](http://WWW.CMCTU.ORG) WEBSITE. PAPER COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO THOSE CMCTU MEMBERS WHO SPECIFICALLY REQUEST SUCH.

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 January!!!