TROUT

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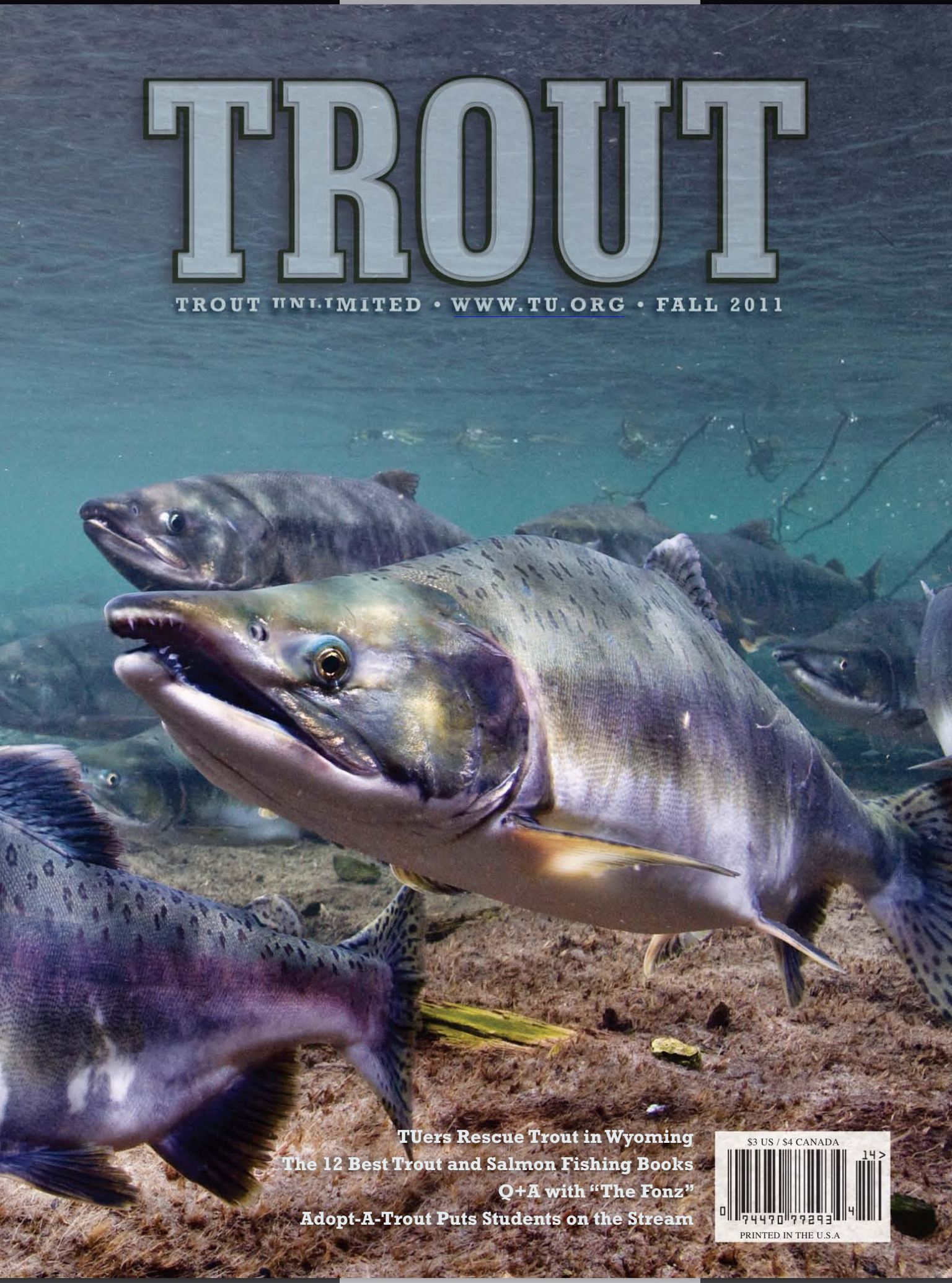

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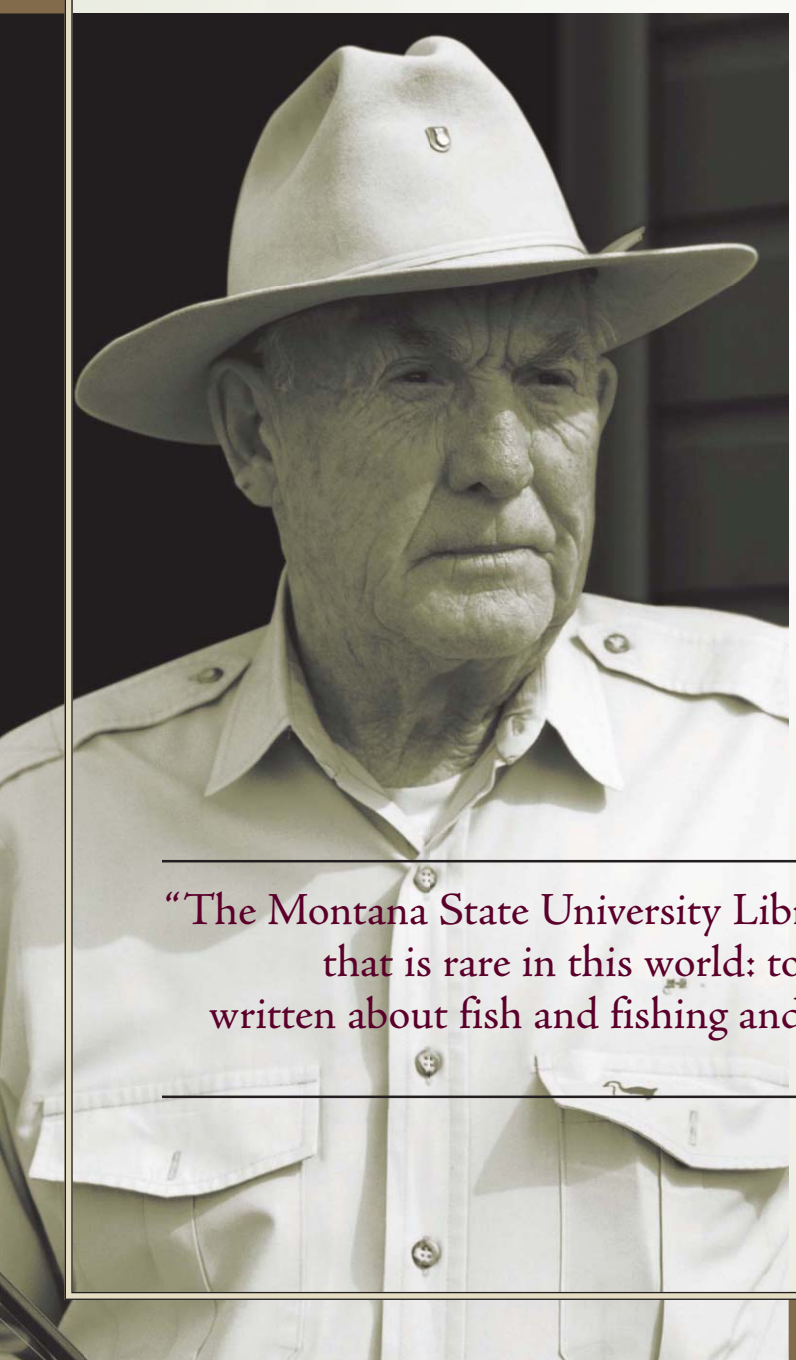

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The Journal of Coldwater Fisheries Conservation
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From the President

[Chris Wood]

Stepping Up for Conservation

Trout Unlimited's work to protect the places you love to fish is made possible primarily through partnerships.

Take for example our work on the Big Lost in Idaho. Without the support of irrigators, we could not have reopened more than 175 miles of trout habitat on that fabled river—habitat that was blocked for generations by irrigation diversions.

We work with timber companies, including Mendocino Redwood and Humboldt Redwood, on California's North Coast to remove hundreds of miles of roads to help recover imperiled coastal coho.

In Virginia and West Virginia, partnerships with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the U.S. Forest Service will protect and restore native brook trout on privately and publicly owned lands.

This work complements the thousands of partnerships that TU chapters form in local communities to teach kids to fish, restore impaired rivers and advocate for sound conservation policies at the local, state and national levels. Occasionally, these local partnerships become landscape in scale as was the case when four midwestern state councils and TU National formed a partnership to help repair streams within the 24,000 square mile so-called Driftless Area of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois.

Lesser known, but of increasing importance, is the work of our partners who are members of AFFTA. While most of you may not know what the abbreviation stands for, you all know the member organizations. Think Orvis, Sage, Winston, Costa Del Mar, Patagonia and Simms—the companies that make the rods, reels and gear we use. Here is the good news, AFFTA—the American Fly Fishing Trade Association— a longtime, strong partner of TU, has recently upped the ante.

Under the leadership of Chairman Jim Klug, founder and director of operations of Yellow Dog Flyfishing Adventures, AFFTA and its member organizations have been leaders in supporting conservation measures that improve fish and wildlife habitat and fishing and hunting opportunities, while fighting wrong-headed congressional proposals to cut funding for state and federal natural resource management agencies.

For example, AFFTA recently joined TU in opposing a bill in Congress that would cut protections for tens of millions of acres of publicly owned land that harbors the best habitat for native trout, salmon and steelhead. Member organizations of AFFTA are stepping up for conservation, too. Orvis, for example, an important AFFTA member, is considering a partnership with TU to replace fish-blocking culverts to help reconnect trout and salmon to hundreds of miles of habitat.

AFFTA and its member organizations are deeply aware of the intrinsic connection between healthy, intact habitats and improved fishing opportunities. So, the next time you buy a rod, reel or other gear, do it knowing that the fly-fishing business community is an active participant in helping to protect the places we love to fish.

Chris Wood

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From the Editor

[Steven R. Kinsella]

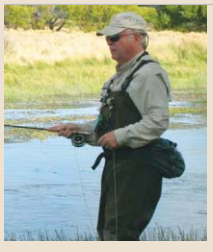
Healing Troubled Waters

The pages of *Trout* have long been filled with references to stream repair and restoration. Terms like buffers, fish friendly culverts, bypass, erosion reduction and root wad placement, constantly appear in stories about stream restoration projects carried out at both the national and chapter levels. Those stories reflect one of the cornerstones of TU—its work to repair and restore coldwater rivers and streams to allow them to sustain important populations of trout and salmon. For the outside observer, and even for the TU member who prefers to support these efforts through their membership rather than spending a weekend volunteering waist-deep in a stream making repairs, those terms can sometimes sound like the utterings of a strange language. Recognizing that fact, the staff of *Trout*, along with TU's Senior Scientist Jack Williams and our designer Jim Gray, set about creating a simplified visual image (page 36) of what the art and science of stream restoration is all about. The next time you are on the water fishing, look at the existing features of the stream or river and think about what could potentially be done to make it a more healthy, functioning system for trout or salmon. Then attend your local TU chapter meeting to talk about what you and other passionate anglers could do to turn those thoughts into action. And if you don't have a local TU chapter, consider starting one. Positive, long-term change more often than not begins with the simple action of a single person. If you want to positively impact the fishery you care about, consider yourself the spark that can ignite that change.

Our Contributors

Cory Toye has worked for TU since the fall of 2007 and is currently the director of the Wyoming Water Project. Cory is a Wyoming native and lives in Pavillion, Wyo. with his wife Morgan, newborn baby Joe and a variety of pets. When not working with private landowners to reconnect and restore trout habitat, he enjoys spending time with his friends and family in big, wonderful Wyoming.

Samantha Carmichael is the assistant editor of *Trout* and lives in Fairfax, Va. with her husband, Paul, and dog Patti. She is a native of Warren, Pa. where she grew up fishing and hunting in the Allegheny Mountains with her parents and three siblings. Samantha is a 2008 Penn State University graduate.



Jack Williams is TU's senior scientist and a prolific writer on all things fish and conservation. When not out restoring streams or fishing with family, he and his wife, Cindy are likely to be working the fields with their springer spaniels.

David Stalling has worked for the U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wildlife Federation and is the former president of the Montana Wildlife Federation. He recently moved from Montana to Berkeley, Calif., where he works as the state communications director for TU.

Clare Cooper is currently TU's Women's Initiative intern in the national office. She was fortunate to conduct the Q&A with Henry "The Fonz" Winkler while working with the communications department this summer. Clare graduated from Dickinson College in 2009 where her brother frequently visited under the pretense of seeing his sister, but ended up on the Letort Spring Run every time. No hard feelings—she appreciates having a guide in the family. In the future, Clare hopes to travel as much as possible, attend graduate school in Australia and eventually settle down in the Pacific Northwest.

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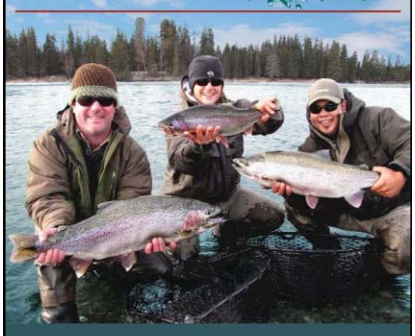

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Our Readers Write

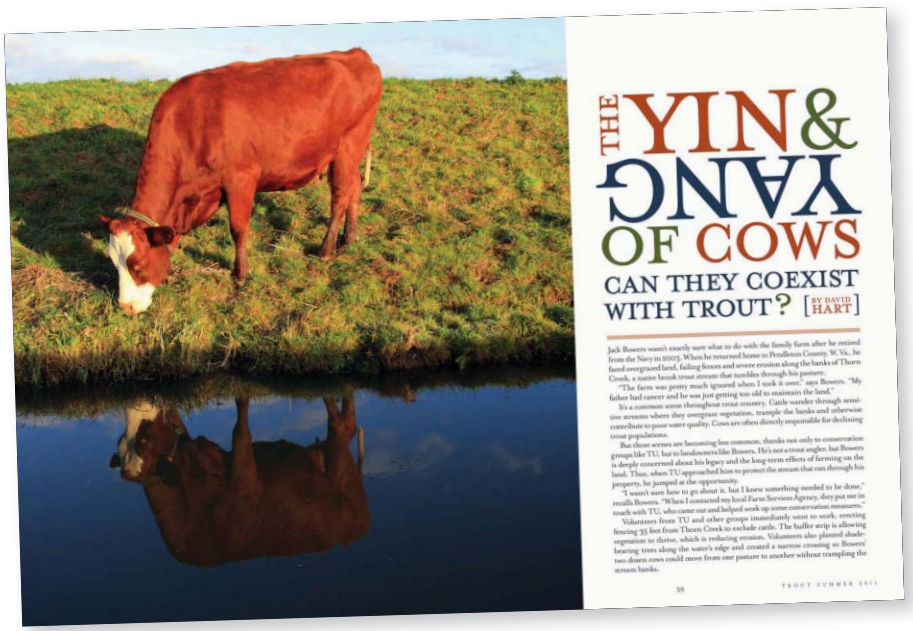
… I'm writing to you about an interesting coincidence regarding Bergman's book "Trout." My parents in the early 1940s gave me the book for a Christmas present. I read and re-read it. It was a treasure in my early days of learning about fly fishing. Two weeks ago my grandson Jacob came to visit me at our cabin at Warm Lake in the Salmon River country. The past two summers Jacob has become a good fly fisherman. He is tying flies with a passion and became an excellent fly caster. Jacob has been catching rainbows and brook trout every day that he has been at Warm Lake. To reward him for progress in the sport I gave him my extra copy of Bergman's "Trout." Then returning to Boise I found in my mail Trout Unlimited's magazine and read Chris Camuto's fine article "Ray Bergman: the Patience of Angling."

Clayne F. Baker
Boise, Idaho

Having cut my trout angling teeth with Ray Bergman's *Trout*, I was delighted to see Chris Camuto's nice essay. Bergman wrote for *Outdoor Life*, however, not *Field and Stream*.

Tim Mead
Charlotte, N.C.

The letter in the summer 2011 issue by Bill Pyatt is deeply misguided. Pyatt makes three main assertions, all of which are wrong: first, that *Trout* focuses too much on conservation and not enough on how to tie flies and on where and how to use them; second, that laypersons don't know much about conservation issues; and third, that farmers and ranchers are the real conservation experts and are benevolent stewards of our lands and waters. Trout Unlimited was formed as a conservation organization, dedicated to improving the quality of the trout fishing experience by protecting the



habitat in which trout live and by promoting fishing regulations that produce healthy populations of wild trout. There is a dizzying assortment of threats to our cherished fishing, and the proper focus of *Trout* is to educate its readers about these threats and to present ways to counter them. There are plenty of magazines about fly tying and fly fishing techniques and venues, and *Trout* doesn't need to be another one…

William Terry
Longmont, Colo.

Just wanted to say that Walt Gasson's piece on "The Home Place" was the finest article I have ever read in *Trout*. Thank you.

Dana L. Charboneau
Ludlow, Mass.

Recently read the piece you ran on 'Ted and Trout'. Turner's conservation efforts seem laudable. I would, however, be interested in hearing the extent to which public access has been effected by Turner's acquisitions in Montana. Are there more areas whereby the 'little guy' may gain access, less, or no change whatsoever? (I don't know the answer to this question, but it seems worth asking.) It's interesting that 'Turner…came up with much of the estimated $500,000 cost of restoration' for Cherry Creek. Reader's might be curious, nevertheless, about the extent to which the improvements are limited to the benefit of Turner's private fishing holes. The article cites Pat Flowers as saying "I think this project was full of tough decisions, all of which played out very publicly, as they should." More could be said about the controversies that "played out very publicly." Tough decisions tend to issue in tough consequences for somebody. There is little mention of the counterarguments—those in opposition to the decisions, tough or otherwise, which were made. This omission left me asking whether what I had read was informative or mere hagiography.

Jeremy Kirby
Albion, Mich.

I have just received my second issue of *Trout* and am pleased to say I literally read it cover to cover within the first

two days of getting it. Growing up in Australia I would dream of the wild trout and beautiful places they lived in North America. Now living in Canada I feel privileged to be an active part of a group dedicated to keeping wild salmon on Canada's West Coast and am proud to be a new member of Trout Unlimited. Your magazine is a wonderful record of the outstanding work that TU does to keep native trout swimming free throughout the continent. Your article "The Yin and Yang of Cows" struck a particular chord with me, as cattle farmers in my native Australia battle to keep grazing rights in the pristine High Country areas where rainbow, brown and the odd brook trout exist. I also love your "Native Fish" section. A wonderful, truly inspiring magazine—don't change a thing!

Ben Mackereth
Coquitlam, British Columbia

TU's summer 2011 issue reminds me of the old adage, "You can't tell a book by its cover." While the articles hold much interest, I fail to see any merit in this cover that belies Mr. Romano's credentials.

Henry Borza
Greensburg, Pa.

Your Letters:

Readers are invited to submit letters on anything that appears in *Trout*. We may edit submissions for clarity or length. Send letters to:

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Blog Rollup

A sample of what our tech-savvy readers are saying about the issues. Visit tu.org/blog to voice your opinions.

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—Rene de Guzman

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—Richard Setina

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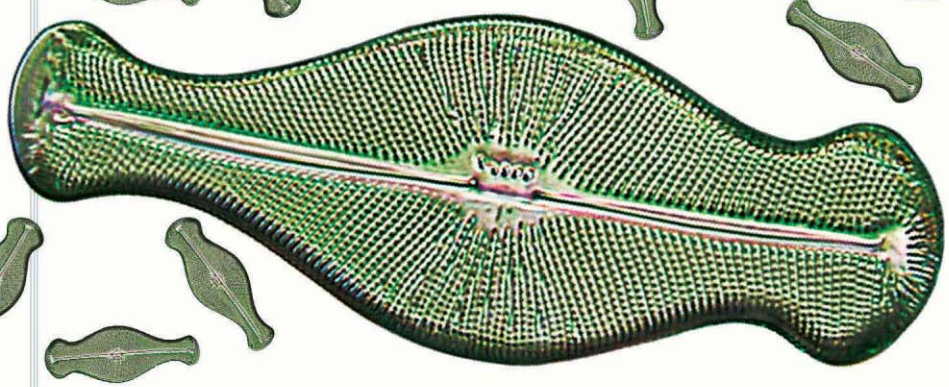
Trout Wins Gold Award

Trout accepted the gold award for cover design at the annual Excel Awards in June. The Excel Awards are hosted by Association Media & Publishing to highlight the best and the brightest in association publishing. Trout competed among nearly 1,000 other entries, earning the top award for cover design in the 100,000-plus subscribers category. The magazine also received a silver award for overall design. "The magazine staff is very proud of these awards and what they say about the quality of the publication," says Editor Steve Kinsella.

Pocket Water

NEWS BITS AND BYTES



Didymo Outbreaks Linked to Clean Water

Research results published in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters* found that didymo, a freshwater algae, that is wreaking havoc on trout streams through the United States and elsewhere and often referred to as "rock snot," is able to colonize and dominate the bottoms of some of the world's cleanest waterways precisely because they are so clear and clean. Didymo does so with a little help from its friends—in this case, bacteria—which allow it to make use of nutrients like phosphorus.

Algae blooms are usually linked with the increased input of nutrients that fuel the growth of microscopic aquatic plants. Didymo's ability to grow prolifically in waters where nutrients such as phosphorus are in short supply puzzled scientists. But the study, funded by the National Science Foundation and the State of South Dakota Carbon Scientist fund, revealed that didymo is able to concentrate phosphorus from the water.

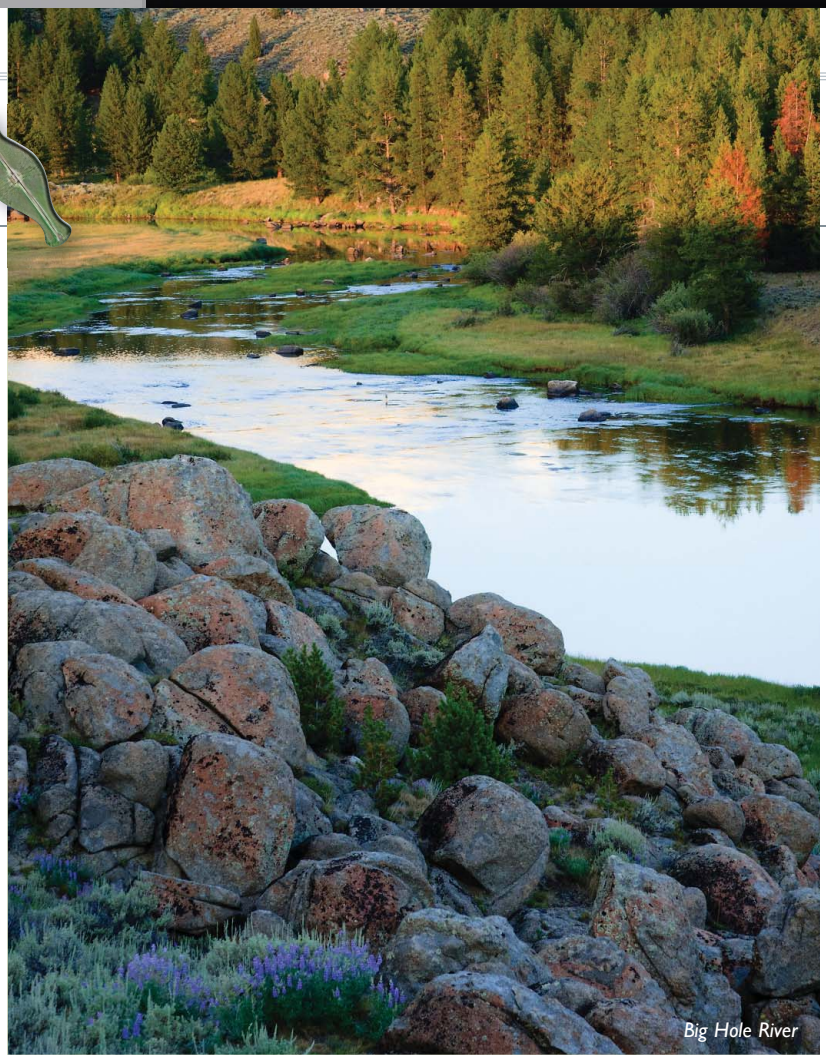
The scientists conducted their research in Rapid Creek, an unpolluted mountain stream in western South Dakota in which didymo was first observed in 2002. The creek regularly has didymo blooms, with 30 to 100 percent of the streambed covered by the algae over an area up to six miles long. Didymo thrives in Rapid Creek through biogeochemical processes in biofilms in the mats. As the mats form, new stalks develop at the surface, and older stalks, which have already bound phosphorus, are displaced to the mats' inner regions. Phosphorus is available to didymo thanks to the activity of the bacteria that live inside these mats.

"This study solves the puzzle of how didymo can produce such large blooms in low-nutrient rivers and streams," says Tim Kratz, program director in NSF's Division of Environmental Biology.

The results will help scientists and managers identify water bodies susceptible to didymo blooms and may lead to discoveries that could stem its prolific growth in rivers around the world.

Alaska Program Sweeps Communications Awards

TU's Alaska Program won eight first place awards from the Alaska Professional Communicators for its communication's campaign associated with increasing public awareness on the proposed Pebble Mine. The awards recognized TU's work ranging from web videos to television advertising to news releases. The effectiveness of TU Bristol Bay campaign was made evident by the fact that the Alaska Program was also named the "Sweepstakes Winner" for taking the most first place awards.



Big Hole River

TU Wins Important Water Case in Montana

The Montana Supreme Court has sided with TU, ruling that the organization has the right to participate in the state-wide process for determining water claims—known as adjudication—even if they don't own a water right.

The Montana Water Court had denied Montana TU's participation in the state-wide adjudication on the grounds that the organization did not own a water right. The Water Court had also ruled that only the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks had standing to represent the public in water adjudication cases. The Supreme Court overturned both of those points.

The case came about because Montana TU has been actively involved in the Big Hole River basin, spending many hours and resources in the field in close cooperation with irrigators and landowners to restore arctic grayling and wild trout populations by improving stream flows and habitat. Montana TU, and others, felt that a few over-stated water claims could unravel years of fish restoration efforts on the river.

In its decision, the Montana Supreme Court upheld the public's interest in the health of Montana's rivers and streams as well as the integrity of the water adjudication process. As the court noted, a transparent and thorough process of airing concerns and objections from legitimate parties is the best way to avoid future water disputes.

"The Montana Supreme Court grounded its opinion on the public's right to use Montana's waters for non-irrigation uses such as commerce, recreation and conservation, which are constitutionally-acknowledged uses of the state's rivers and streams. It's a decision that will be even more important for the next generation of anglers," says Laura Ziemer, the director of TU's Montana Water Project.

TU Seeks Anglers to Help Document Brook Trout Populations

TU's Maine Council, in partnership with Maine Audubon, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and over 100 volunteer anglers, are working to document native brook trout populations in previously unsurveyed ponds.

Anglers can choose one or more of 187 ponds in western Maine to find and fish. "There are no records of past stocking in any these ponds, so any brook trout found in them are native, wild fish," says Jeff Reardon, TU's Maine brook trout campaign director. "Our goal is to collect information to help inform future management."

The project's focus on remote ponds offers anglers a chance to explore new places while advancing trout conservation efforts. Anglers interested in volunteering for the project can obtain additional information by going to tumaine.org.

The state of Maine contains 97 percent of all the wild or native brook trout ponds remaining in the United States, and is considered by many to be the last true stronghold for wild brook trout in the East.

JIM YUSKAVITCH

Removal of Klamath Dams Would Save Money

The California Public Utilities Commission has endorsed removing four hydroelectric dams on the Klamath River to save utility customers money and help salmon. They also granted the owner of the dam, PacifiCorp, a two percent rate increase to help pay for removing the dams.

PacifiCorp had argued it was better to take out the dams, located in Oregon and Northern California, than face the uncertain costs of upgrading to meet environmental standards for clean water and fish passage. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission estimated that upgrades would reduce power output and cause the dams to operate at an annual net loss of $20 million.

In addition to lower utility bills, Klamath dam removal proponents say benefits of dam removal include more jobs and investments in local economies. Also, reservoirs created by the dams are filled with toxic blue-green algae in the summer that is harmful to humans and can be lethal to pets and livestock.

TU has played a major role in helping to craft an agreement to remove the dam among all of the key parties including irrigators, tribes, commercial fishing interests, conservationists and others.

"The California Public Utility Commission's decision is another big step toward implementing the historic Klamath Agreements, and bringing salmon back home," says Chuck Bonham, TU's California director. "We've said all along that the settlement agreement is a better business outcome, saves electric customers money, and puts everyone on a responsible pathway for dam removal compared to more litigation and continued fighting."

The dams are projected to be removed beginning in 2020.

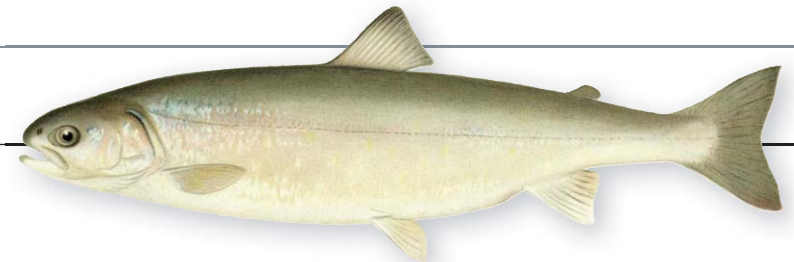
Congress Spears the Frankenfish

The U.S. House of Representatives has voted to adopt an amendment that would prohibit the Food and Drug Administration from spending any money on approving the genetically modified salmon. The amendment was offered to an agricultural spending bill by Representative Don Young (R-Alaska) who argued that the fish would negatively impact wild salmon.

If the measure is adopted by the full Congress, it could prove to be the death knell for the genetically modified salmon, which was developed by Aqua Bounty, a Massachusetts-based company. The fish was creating by inserting the genes of Chinook salmon and ocean pout into fertilized eggs of the North Atlantic salmon.

TU has been joined by other conservation organizations and fishery biologists opposing the approval of the genetically modified salmon until the potential impact on wild salmon stocks is thoroughly reviewed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries.

"TU support for a policy rider on an appropriations bill is a once in a blue moon occurrence," says Steve Moyer, TU's vice president for government affairs. "But in this case, where the FDA has so clearly failed to do its job and put our trout and salmon resources in peril as a consequence, we strongly support the House action and call on the Senate to quickly adopt the House-approved measure."



Maine Stocks Pond with Bluebacks

The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has restocked a remote pond with blueback trout, a landlocked population of Arctic char, in an effort to help restore the fish. Big Reed Pond was overrun with smelt, which had been introduced illegally. Existing bluebacks in the pond were removed and then the pond was chemically treated to kill all resident fish. By the time of the reclamation, not a single blueback trout was left in the pond. Juvenile blueback trout, whose parents had been captured from Big Reed Pond before the chemical reclamation, were then restocked. Maine is the only location where blueback populations exist in the United States and then in only a dozen waters in that state. An illegal smelt introduction was recently confirmed in another blueback pond, Wadleigh Pond.

REEL SCIENCE

NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF FISHERIES SCIENCE.

Coldwater Tributaries Protect Migrating Salmon

The downstream portion of major rivers can be a hot zone for migrating fish in the summer. That's bad news for long distance migrants like bull trout, salmon or steelhead. Finding sources of cool water can make the difference between stressed--induced disease or successful spawning. Anglers often know of deep pools or tributary streams where fish find cool-water refuges. We know such places exist, but how important are they? A scientist from the University of Washington implanted temperature-sensitive transmitters into Chinook salmon in the Klamath River to document cool refuges along the lower river. One refuge, Blue Creek, was by far the most important long-term stop over. During stops where Blue Creek flowed into the Klamath, Chinook were able to decrease their body temperatures by about 8 degrees F in a matter of hours. Such knowledge will be vital to efforts to protect resources like Blue Creek and their watersheds.

—Jack Williams, TU's senior scientist

Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 2010. Vol. 139. Pages 1091-1108.

Colorado River Study: Population Increases Undercut Water Savings

A study has shown that while water conservation efforts in the western United States over the past 20 years have had a significant impact on water consumption, population increases are erasing those gains.

The study by the Pacific Institute found that large communities that rely partly or completely on the Colorado River for their water have reduced per-capita demand on the river an average of one percent or more each year between 1990 and 2008. In total, that's approximately two million acre-feet of water saved—enough to supply Los Angeles for about three years.

Nonetheless, during the study period, the volume of water drawn from the Colorado River—by 100 municipal and regional water authorities—grew by five percent, even as the amount they drew from all sources rose by 10 percent, according to the report. The increased demand was fueled by a population that blossomed from around 25 million in 1990 to 35 million by the end of the study period.

The authors of the study noted that a number of factors contributed to the drop in per capita consumption, including changes to federal and state water conservation standards and municipal conservation measures that have ranged from setting water rates based on the amount of water consumed to paying people to remove lawns and landscape their property with plants that thrive in arid conditions.

The study did not address agriculture use, which accounts for at least 70 percent of the demand for Colorado River water. Moreover, the study notes that at least 40 percent of the water that cities and towns draw from the river returns as treated waste water.

TU Helps Organize Sportsmen's Alliance to Protect Marcellus Region

Sportsmen and women in the Marcellus Shale region have joined forces and created an alliance to urge state and federal agencies and the energy industry to protect long-held hunting, fishing and trapping traditions from reckless energy development.

"A number of key organizations have joined forces to give sportsmen and women an opportunity to be heard so that together we can advocate for common sense policies and practices to ensure that Marcellus Shale gas development does not negatively impact sportsmen's interests," says Katy Dunlap, TU's Eastern Water Project director.

Members of the Alliance include TU and its Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Mid-Atlantic and New Jersey state councils, Theodore Gordon Flyfishers, Izaak Walton League of America and its New York and Pennsylvania state divisions, New York State Trappers Association, Quality Deer Management Association, Pennsylvania Forest Coalition and The Wildlife Society. Collectively, the Sportsmen Alliance represent 60,000 sportsmen and women in the Marcellus Shale states.

The Alliance is not opposed to gas drilling and recognizes its potential economic and social benefits. Rather, it is concerned that current state and local policies governing gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing in the Marcellus Shale do not adequately protect valuable and irreplaceable natural resources, including clean water and critical habitat for fish and wildlife.

To see the set of recommendations the Sportsmen Alliance for Marcellus Conservation has created for improving policies and practices for Marcellus Shale development, go to **TU.ORG/BLOG**

Question & Answer

With Henry Winkler—actor, producer, director and trout-fishing enthusiast

Henry Winkler, "The Fonz," recently released a memoir on fly fishing, family and photography, "I've Never Met an Idiot on the River," published by Insight Editions. An avid fly fisherman, Henry sat down to answer a few questions for *Trout* on his favorite spots to fish, why the sport means so much to him and his affinity for rivers.

How did you get interested in fly fishing?

At first, it was just a vacation to try it. Being on the river, sleeping next to the river, standing in the river, completely hooked me.

What are the things you have learned while casting in a river?

I've learned not to put off till tomorrow what can give you so much joy today.

Most people know you as The Fonz. Many don't know that you were diagnosed with dyslexia when you were 31, after you received a Masters in Fine Arts from the Yale School of Drama. Your childhood was tough—people thought you were lazy and an underachiever. Even throughout your adult life, you say you have had moments of low self-esteem. How does fly fishing boost your self-image?

As I got better at fly fishing, I realized that the anticipatory fear of something is worse than the actual doing. I find that to be one of the most important lessons, not only that I learned from fly fishing, but that I learned to apply it to my life.

You say in your book, "I've Never Met an Idiot on the River," that your heart lives in New York, where you were raised, that your body lives in Los Angeles and your soul is in Montana. Why is Montana such an important place for you?

Montana is spacious, gorgeous, friendly, inviting and where my favorite trout live.

What are your favorite rivers?

The Ruby, the Beaverhead, the Madison and the Henry's Fork.

You are dedicated to catch and release fishing. Why?

I find trout to be beautiful, majestic, well-educated in avoiding my fly and very photogenic. If we put them back, they get larger and more fun the next year.

You've hooked yourself in the cheek with a fly and you say you fall into the river once a day while you're fishing. What's the worst injury you've incurred on a fishing trip?

I would have to say that the worst injury is to my soul when I have to get back on the plane and fly out of Montana.

To read the entire interview, and to find out Henry Winkler's go-to fly and most memorable fish, go to TU.ORG/BLOG. To hear a webcast interview with Henry Winkler, go to tu.org

—Clare Cooper

> **Being on the river, sleeping next to the river, standing in the river, completely hooked me.**

Watersheds

[BY CHRISTOPHER CAMUTO]

Mottram and the Modern Angler

UNPACKING ONE'S BOOKS IS ONE OF the few pleasures of moving. But getting my angling books on the shelves recently proved time-consuming. As I pulled volumes out of innumerable cardboard boxes, I kept setting aside titles I wanted to reread. The pile of the latter grew absurdly and the shelves filled slowly. Had reality not intruded, I would have set about rereading all of them.

One of the titles that caught my eye, which I did allow myself to revisit, was J. C. Mottram's "Fly Fishing: Some New Arts and Mysteries," originally published in 1915. I first read it when the Flyfisher's Classic Library of Devon, England published a facsimile reprint in 1994 with an introduction by David Burnett. Paul Schullery has more recently edited a selection of Mottram, "Mottram on Fly Fishing Mysteries," which Stackpole Books published in its small format series on fly-fishing literature.

Mottram (1879-1945) wrote in the shadow of the British dry-fly advocate Frederic Halford and the great wet-fly angler, G. E. M. Skues, back in the day when angling theories were taken as seriously as political ideologies or religious disputes. Despite being lesser known than his famous contemporaries, Mottram came to be considered by authorities like Arnold Gingrich and Ernest Schwiebert as an important innovator in modern fly design and angling practice. Burnett and Schullery concur in praising Mottram's refreshing originality and his eagerness to explore the possibilities of dry-fly and subsurface fishing. His scientific background and experimental approach to confronting angling problems make him a good choice as the paradigmatic modern angler, the great-great grandfather of us all.

Most of us don't go down to the river to espouse or prove a theory. We go to catch fish. And, like Mottram, we solve the problems of fly selection and presentation according to what's happening in the water in front of us. We adapt and evolve successful ways of angling. Mottram stepped clear of unnecessarily polarized 19th century debates about the correct way to fish and into the angling world we know. His take on the "arts and mysteries" of angling, nearly a century old now, is both a charming and an instructive read, a touchstone book for the contemporary angler.

> Mottram is a fine example of the combination of the scientific angler and the poetic angler, the adventure-seeker, poetic nature lover and conservationist.

In rereading Mottram, I was as interested in the range of his angling personality as in his technical innovations. In his introduction, he notes that there are different "breeds" of anglers: the scientific angler, the naturalist angler, the happy angler, the poetic angler, the adventurous angler and the angler conservationist. (I'm tinkering a bit with Mottram's terms to keep them relevant.) But these categories, Mottram notes, do not hold fast: "Of mongrels there is a vast host, and all permutations and combinations are to be found; in fact, most of us are mongrels." Mottram himself effortlessly combined a diversity of interests as an angler.

It's the scientific or practical angler in us that establishes our credibility. Mottram was keenly interested in all the technical matters of angling we continue to explore—fish behavior and biology, insect life, stream ecology and management, optics, imitative fly design, presentation tactics, finding fish, casting. If we are not dealing with the manifold *facts* a given river presents to us, then we are not really fishing. Except for the pleasant difference of his language, Mottram's chapters on technical matters are thoroughly contemporary. A brilliant chapter on "Flies of the Future" predicts some aspects of the evolution of fly design from his time to ours. He guessed right that twentieth-century fly tyers would vastly improve imitation and

that improved imitation would aid effective presentation of flies everywhere in the water column. His essay on "Fish Watching" is a wonderful piece on the angler's powers of observation. In the colorful precision of his descriptions, Mottram reminds me of the studious and thoughtful Vince Marinaro.

But the enduring appeal of Mottram's book is how it reveals the richness of his angling personality. He discusses the keeping of a fishing log or journal, both as a source of information and as part of the personal history of an angler that gives pleasure as the years add up. He is expert about aquatic vegetation, and includes an entire chapter on birds. He offers a fine philosophic piece, "The Mystery of Fishing," about the subjective, psychological appeal of angling and the angler's enjoyment of nature. Like most of us, Mottram's love of fishing lead to travel. His two pieces on fly fishing in New Zealand a century ago are gems, and they illustrate the two poles of his writing talent. "Fly Fishing in New Zealand" is a fine narrative account with a good deal of vivid description on both the north and south island. His unabashed pleasure in angling under the Southern Cross is a joy to read. His "A Winter with the Dry Fly in New Zealand" is an excellent technical treatise on the subject as he puzzled out matching the hatch in a new environment. "New Arts & Mysteries" concludes with a futuristic fable, "In A.D. 2014," a dire, Orwellian prophecy about the possible fate of angling in the modern world.

Mottram is a fine example of the combination of the scientific angler and the poetic angler, the adventure-seeker, poetic nature lover and conservationist. On the page he is hardcore and easy going at the same time. That sounds like the character of a good fishing companion. Like all fine anglers, his drive to bring fish to the net is underwritten by broad curiosity about nature, enabled by keen powers of observation, and enlightened by a good ethical sense. He would make my list of "complete anglers"—if I kept such a list—and his book reminds me that the complete angler fishes with diverse, mutually supportive interest in trout, rivers and lakes and the natural world.

Chris is the author of several books and the book review columnist for *Gray's Sporting Journal*. He lives at Wolftree Farm in central Pennsylvania.

RUSS SCHNITZER

The Drive to Discover: TU's New Classroom

BY SAMANTHA CARMICHAEL

Project Combines Research with Education

In 2008, TU national staffer Nelli Williams came up with an idea to get kids in Wyoming out of their classrooms and onto the banks of local rivers and streams to learn about fish conservation. The goal of the program was not only to teach students about local watersheds but also to provide project coordinators, TU scientists and volunteers with a valuable resource of information on previously unstudied fish habitats.

The idea became known as the Adopt-A-Trout program and by 2010 three programs were underway in Dubois, Meeteetse and Cody, Wyo. The 2010-2011 school year was the third year of the program in Dubois. AAT now works with about 80 youth in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades and encourages parents and city officials to get involved with the on-the-ground projects completed each fall and spring.

The students do in-class work to learn about aquatic life cycles, stream health and threats to trout. Each classroom adopts several tagged trout and follows their movements throughout the school year. The students also learn to use telemetry equipment, GPS equipment and mapping tools.

"This was my first year with AAT. I enjoyed looking at the bugs and planting the willows a lot. It was probably the best activity I have ever done," says Dubois Elementary fourth-grader Lydia Hinkle.

The fish and environment-related projects are not just integrated into one science class by one teacher, they extend over all subjects. In the art class, students make fish paintings; in the writing class they journal and write letters about their daily and year-long projects; in the math classes they work on graphing statistics, prediction and measurements.

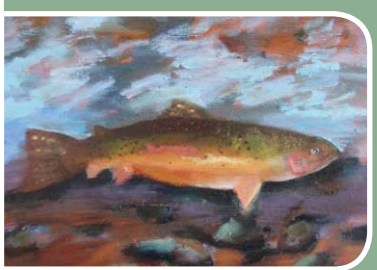
The difference between the widely known Trout in the Classroom and the Adopt-a-Trout programs, according to Wyoming Water Project Director Cory Toye, is the emphasis on science and the in-depth research done on wild fish. TIC involves raising fish in a tank in the classroom; all the components of AAT are focused on understanding wild and native fish in their natural habitat. The program's curriculum is designed to educate kids about the fishery within as much of the watershed ecology scale as possible.

"The program has evolved into something that will encourage kids to get interested in their watershed and hopefully decide to get involved in the conservation of these amazing places," Toye says.

Larry Lewis, now retired principal of Dubois Elementary/Middle School adds, "It also creates a level of ownership within the community. One year the daughter of a local motel owner saw that a tourist had caught one of the trout with a transmitter, he had kept the fish and planned to eat it. She was indignant that he would do so but in the process told him all about our project and what we were trying to do. Kids educating the public is a tremendous opportunity to establish stewardship of local resources."

Learning through research

Research done on the water and in the classrooms can help identify potential problems for fish populations, projects that need to be implemented and whether or not completed projects are performing as expected.



In the art class, students make fish paintings; in the writing class they journal and write letters about their daily and year-long projects; in the math classes they work on graphing statistics, prediction and measurements.

RUSS SCHNITZER

RUSS SCHNITZER

During the 2010-2011 school year, 15 rainbow and brown trout were implanted with telemetry tags to monitor their movement and to identify habitat-improvement projects and passage issues on the Wind River.

On Sheridan Creek, a tributary to the Wind, 20 trout, among them native Yellowstone cutthroat, were tagged to determine if cutthroat could be restored to the creek. The telemetry information from the project will help determine if a naturally existing rock structure will keep non-native brook trout from competing with the cutthroat.

Thus far, the AAT research points to good things on Sheridan Creek. Toye says that the released trout have not moved through the rock structure. They are hoping that the structure is an adequate barrier so they can release Yellowstone cutthroats into the upper reaches of Sheridan and keep them free from competition with non-native fish.

Finally, 15 rainbow, brown and cutthroat trout were tagged to identify issues that may be limiting the natural reproduction of trout in the Shoshone River through the town of Cody, Wyo.

"The Wyoming Game and Fish stock this fishery but would like to see it persist naturally," says Toye.

The telemetry research allows students to keep a map of their fish locations. While most fish are still tagged and swimming at the end of the project, Toye says it is not unheard of to find a tag beneath a bird's nest. He added that the vast majority of people fishing will just release a fish if one with a tag is caught. Along with the telemetry research, the students are busy learning insect identification, fish dissection and willow planting. They take their newly learned fly-casting abilities onto the water as well.

"Dissecting a fish was awesome. It did not stink too much either. It was cool to get to see its air tube. I got to see the brain, the heart and liver. One thing I learned is that the fish have clear eye lids," says Dalton, a fifth grade student.

But for students like Dalton, it's not all serious fish research all the time. A favorite activity for the students has been the stream habitat simulation. A course is set up in the school gym outlining a stream riddled with commonly seen obstacles such as culverts, anglers and barriers. The kids are given a dozen colored plastic eggs each to carry through the "stream" in its pre-restored state. At the end they count how many of their eggs made it through. It is no surprise that many eggs break. They then simulate a stream restoration and run the course again with their eggs to see how much easier it gets for them.

RUSS SCHNITZER

"Dissecting a fish was awesome. It did not stink too much either. It was cool to get to see its air tube. I got to see the brain, the heart and liver. One thing I learned is that the fish have clear eye lids."

A new generation of anglers and conservationists

It takes a number of dedicated staff and volunteers to make the program a success. The 12 teachers and administrators assist in all the projects and are well informed before each lesson is presented. About 25 TU volunteers participate in the field and classroom activities as well. The project has received tremendous support from the Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the Shoshone National Forest and from the Dubois Anglers Wildlife Group.

"I have been amazed how the program has also helped create a new generation of anglers and conservationists in some of our communities. I run into parents who tell me about how their son or daughter wanted a fly rod for Christmas and that forced the parents to get their own so they could all enjoy the sport," Toye says.

The success of the program is evident in the fact that for the 2011-2012 school year there are five new AAT programs that are getting started across the state of Wyoming.

"It was really neat to see the excitement for the program grow so fast and watch as volunteers stepped up to help, got excited about it and took ownership of it," says Williams. "Ultimately it was my hope to create a fun, place-based river education program that would be a model for uses in other communities in the West. I think its well on its way thanks to the good work of the TU staff and volunteers in Wyoming."

To see a video of the Adopt-A-Trout volunteers in action, go to **TU.ORG/BLOG**

Fishing TU's Home Waters:

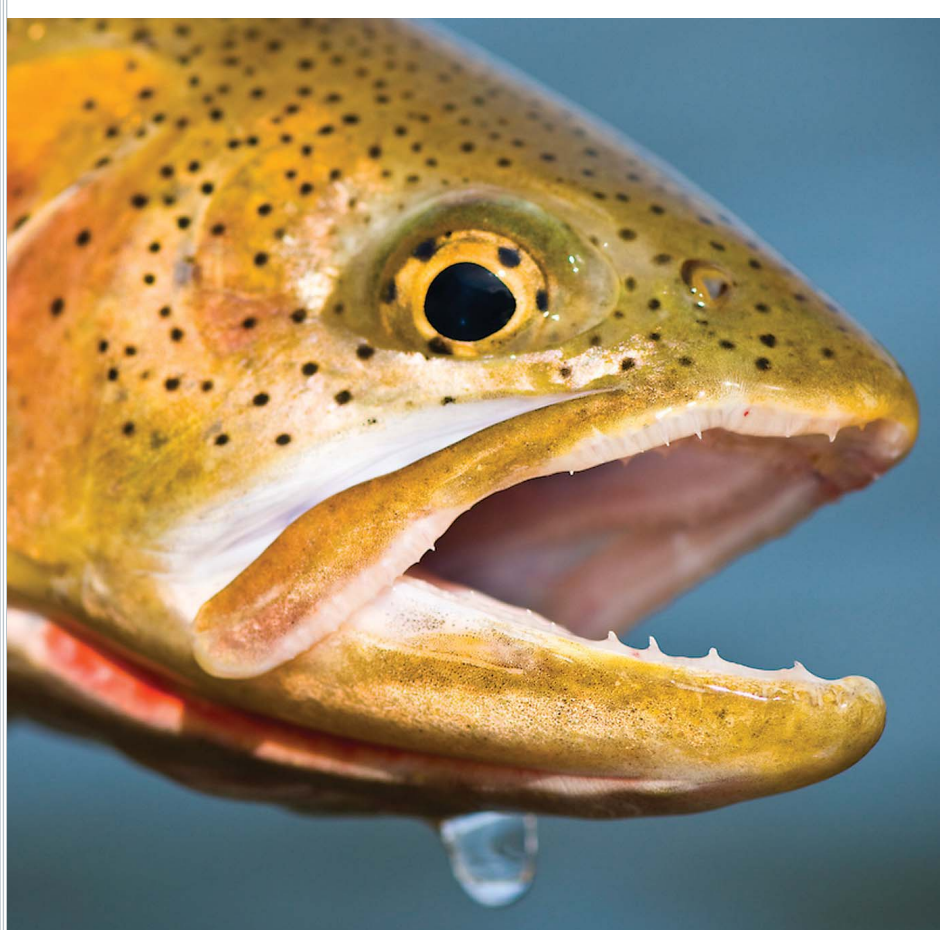
Fishing Wyoming's Wind River

BY CORY TOYE

Few places maintain the feel of the Old West like Wind River country. Working ranches dot the landscape and healthy streams and rivers flow from the base of high mountain peaks such as Gannett—Wyoming's tallest.

The Wind River Mountains are in northwest Wyoming just east of the Continental Divide from Jackson Hole and the Teton Mountains. The Wind begins in its namesake and Absaroka Mountain ranges and drains high desert lands before spilling into Boysen Reservoir near the town of Shoshoni. The river then flows through the Wind River Canyon before reaching the "Wedding of the Waters" near Thermopolis, Wyo. where it becomes the Big Horn River. The Big Horn then works its way north through Wyoming and eventually into Montana to join the Yellowstone River.

Wind River country offers a diverse array of outdoor opportunities for anyone willing to compete with rough terrain, much of which is as wild now as it was at the turn of the century. The river is home to wild and native trout that thrive in habitat that can range from high elevation alpine streams and lakes to a volatile and turbid river that cuts through the badlands of northwest Wyoming. The river's basin includes the 2.2 million acre Wind River Indian Reservation and anglers must obtain a tribal permit to fish these waters. Wading and floating opportunities are available for anglers visiting the area. However, anglers choosing to float waters on the Reservation will have to secure a guide that is permitted to do so.



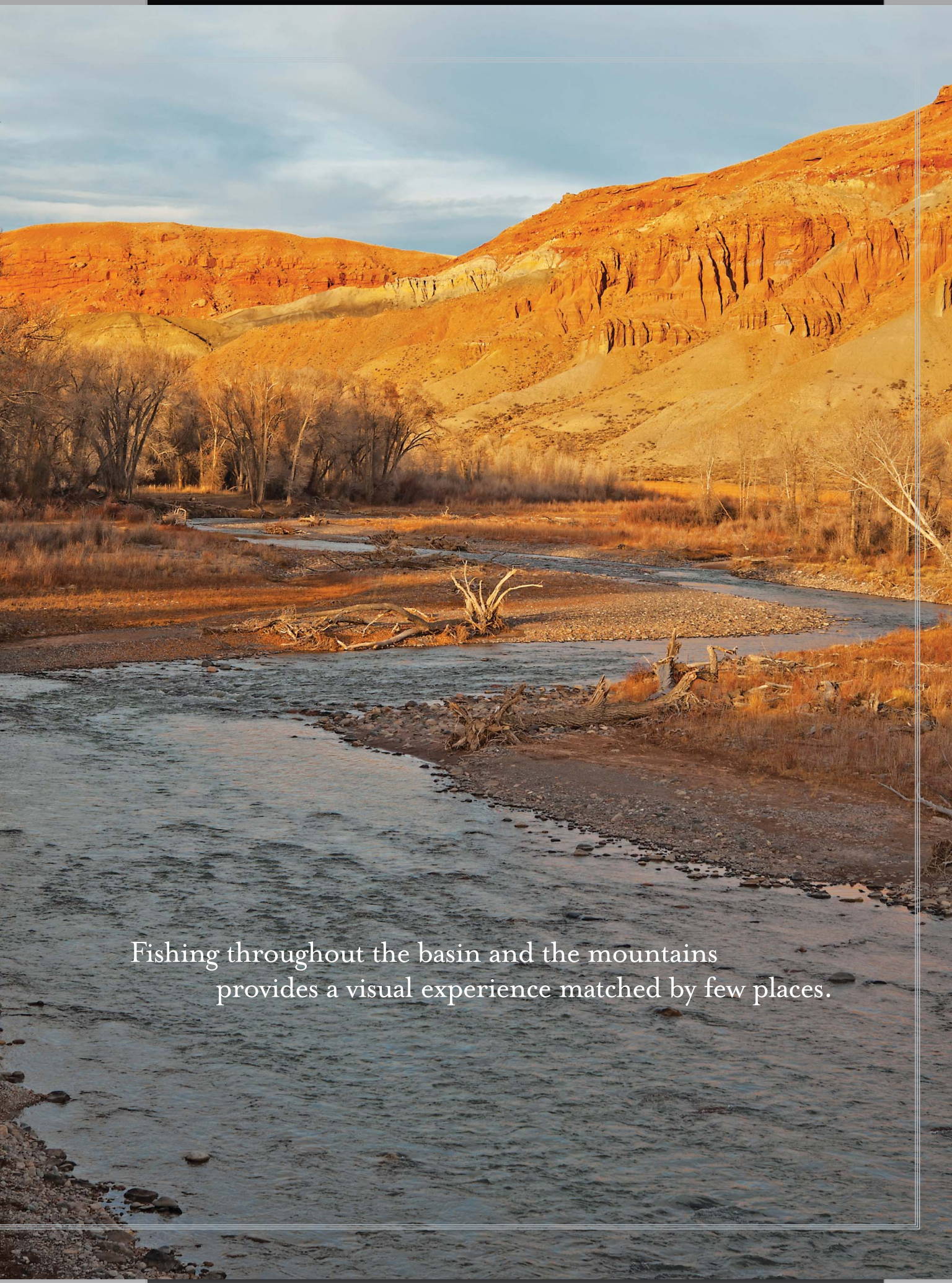
BRIAN GROSSENBACHER

Fishing throughout the basin and the mountains provides a visual experience matched by few places. For those willing to work the steep terrain of the surrounding mountain ranges, countless mountain lakes including Fish Lake and Pelham Lake can provide anglers an opportunity to catch native Yellowstone cutthroat trout. Other lakes in the drainage hold a variety of trout including Yellowstone cutthroat, brown, brook, rainbow and the elusive golden trout. Anglers should have an arsenal of scud, leech and crane fly patterns to find success in the mountain lakes, but be prepared to change up to match midge and small mayfly hatches as well. A large wilderness expanse provides anglers the ability to access high mountain lake fishing in surroundings that will take your breath away. Wind River country is wild, and encounters with bears, wolves, mountain sheep and mountain lions are common. If you decide to chase down some of the high elevation trout, be prepared for unpredictable weather. Temperature swings and weather patterns in the middle of the summer can be extreme so anglers should plan accordingly.

The upper reach of the Wind River near the town of Dubois provides excellent fishing with a number of public access areas. A few large trout reside in the upper stretches of the river where warm spring tributaries keep the majority of the river, in town, ice free throughout the winter. As you proceed further west toward Togwotee Pass and into the forest, numerous headwater tributaries, including Brooks Lake Creek and Sheridan Creek, provide additional opportunities to catch trout in pristine country.

To get the most out of your Wind River country fishing experience, contact WD Fly Shop at www.wdflyshop.com or Sweetwater Fishing Expeditions at www.sweetwaterfishing.com.

RUSS SCHNITZER


Fishing throughout the basin and the mountains
provides a visual experience matched by few places.

The Chosen Ones

The Twelve Best Trout and Salmon Fishing Books

When it comes to trout and salmon fishing books, there is no shortage of opinions which are the best of the best. Instead of choosing the 12 top books, the editorial staff could have selected the 25 or 50 best books. It would have been easier. Nonetheless, here's our stab at the 12 best trout and salmon fishing books of all time, chosen with the input of readers, volunteers, TU staff and others, and written by a bevy of angling experts and enthusiasts. Agree? Disagree? Tell us about it on the blog at TU.ORG/BLOG —*The editor*

Trout (1938)

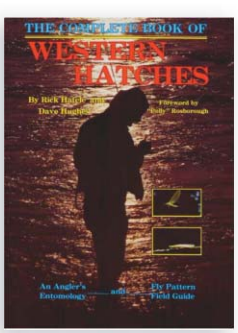
Ray Bergman

First published in 1938, reissued in a revised and expanded second edition in 1952, and reprinted frequently since then, "Trout" is one of the most influential modern American trout fishing books. It was "the bible" for many anglers from mid-century on. Although some of Bergman's treatment of tackle has gone out of date, the heart of this enduring and still useful book is Bergman's detailed advice on angling tactics. His thoughts on wet fly, nymph and streamer fishing are especially valuable. Bergman set the standard as a problem-solving angler and couched his tactical lessons in engaging narratives, which are still a pleasure to read.

Chris Camuto is the author of several books, a columnist for Trout and the book review columnist for Gray's Sporting Journal.

The Complete Book of Western Hatches: An Angler's Entomology and Fly Pattern Field Guide (1981)

Rick Hafele and Dave Hughes

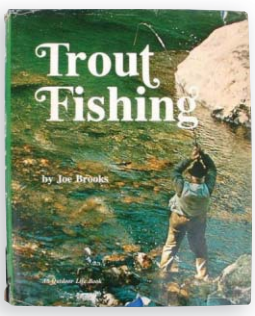


When it was published, "Western Hatches" was a revelation in print—a readable description of western insects by a scientist and a writer, both of whom fished often and extraordinarily well. Latin names permeate the text, but are overwhelmed by the practical information contained in chapters dedicated to mayflies, stoneflies, caddis flies and a plethora of other aquatic organisms. The authors streamlined entomology and provided functional context with fly patterns and fishing techniques and then completed the angler's buffet by using examples from legendary rivers such as the Deschutes and Madison. The approach is time honored, but "Western Hatches" broke the mold.

A Wyoming resident, Scott Yates is the director of TU's Western Water Project and an avid Western angler.

Trout Fishing (1972)

Joe Brooks

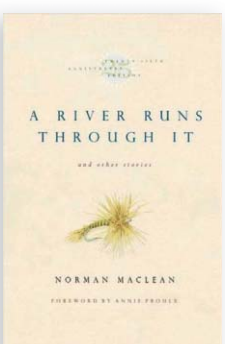


When "Trout Fishing" was published in 1972 it was one of the first in what would become a long list of illustrated fly-fishing how-to books. Written by modern fishing pioneer Joe Brooks, it includes information on the history of fly fishing, fishing tackle, fishing methods, flies, wading tips and casting techniques. In what is now standard fare, the casting section contains easy to follow images of angler, fly rod and line. At the time of its publication, Western fly innovator and fly-shop founder Dan Bailey wrote that the instructional information in the book "is the best available on the subject."

The editor

A River Runs Through It and Other Stories (1976)

Norman Maclean

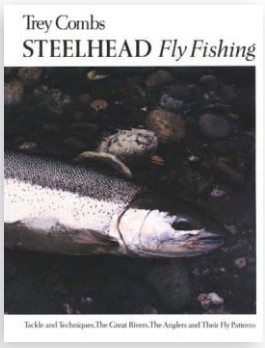


Though anglers often laud it for its fly-fishing backdrop, Norman Maclean's novella "A River Runs Through It" is much more than an angling tale. It is an artful narrative of a father and brother, stubborn and tough Scots, who hunger to help—but cannot—a talented younger son whose life drifts between trouble and a great river, Montana's Big Blackfoot. Cane rods, Bunyan Bugs and four-count casting play supporting roles, but it is the frailties of the human condition that course through this story, sure and clear like melt-water off Montana's Great Divide.

Bruce Farling is the executive director of Montana TU.

Steelhead Fly Fishing (1991)

Trey Combs

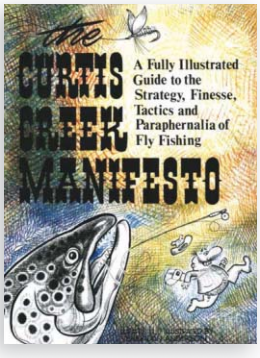


Aspiring and veteran steelhead fly anglers alike are plagued these days by information overload. The amount of gear and information available in our so-called "digital age" can be overwhelming. But the essential information that any aspiring steelheader needs to know has not changed over time and it can be found in Trey Combs's seminal book: "Steelhead Fly Fishing." The book provides time-tested information on tackle and techniques, steelhead behavior and fly patterns. It also introduces readers to the major steelhead rivers of the Pacific Northwest, from the Klamath in the south to the legendary Skeena system in northern British Columbia.

Rob Masonis is TU's vice president of Conservation Programs and an avid steelhead angler in the Pacific Northwest.

The Curtis Creek Mainfesto (1978)

Sheridan Anderson

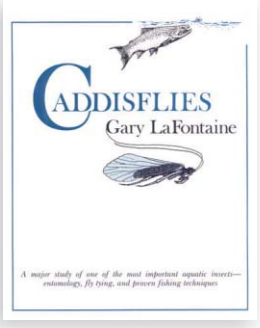


There are two things that ultimately define great fly anglers—the ability to keep things incredibly simple and never taking themselves too seriously. The highest accolades belong to "literary" standards of angling wisdom … but who ever said that had to be a long-form volume? Sheridan Anderson created what may be the most poignant and impactful "counter-culture" treatise on introductory fly fishing ever produced in his 48-page collection of cartoons and witty prose entitled "The Curtis Creek Manifesto." The doodles are outright silly, but the lessons are stunningly effective, even now—33 years and 250,000 sold copies later.

Kirk Deeter is editor of Angling Trade, an editor-at-large for Field & Stream and a frequent contributor to Trout.

Caddisflies: A major study of one of the most important aquatic insects—entomology, fly tying, and proven fishing techniques (1981)

Gary LaFontaine

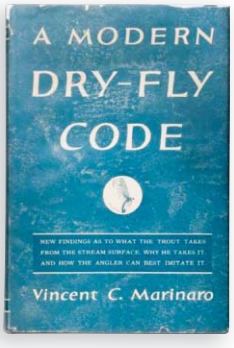


Following a decade of groundbreaking research, the publishing of "Caddisflies" served as a catalyst for anglers and became the defining work of Gary LaFontaine's brilliant angling career. The book takes an exhaustive look at the previously disregarded and misunderstood biology of the caddisfly life cycle and its significance to trout. Effective methods for applying this information are provided in the form of revolutionary "heresies" pertaining to fly patterns and fishing techniques. "Caddisflies" is the standard on the subject and remains as instrumental to anglers today as it was a generation ago.

Will Jordan resides in Montana's Gallatin Valley, he publishes a blog highlighting his fishing experiences at 111degreeswest.blogspot.com.

A Modern Dry Fly Code (1950)

Vincent C. Marinaro

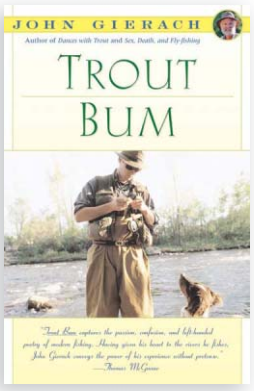


This classic treatise on fishing the dry fly remains as relevant today as when it was published in 1950. Through compelling stories and keen observation, the book focuses on techniques and patterns that are as effective on the insect-rich limestone streams of Pennsylvania as they are almost anywhere trout are found. A large portion of this book focuses on the importance of terrestrial insects—bringing non-aquatic insect species to the minds and fly boxes of anglers worldwide. As comfortable on the water as at the vise, Marinaro presents readers with his innovative thorax-style mayfly pattern as well as early imitations of several terrestrials.

Brennan Sang is the online community manager for TU and lives and fishes in West Yellowstone, Mont. with his wife and year-old son.

Trout Bum (1988)

John Gierach

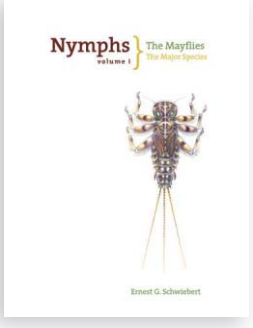


People getting into fly fishing often look for suggestions on books to help them become better anglers. Proposing an author known more for humor than "how to" may seem odd, but many people feel the most important thing about fly fishing is not taking it too seriously. Gierach subtly makes this point while deftly providing intimate details of the culture and quirks of the sport. Seasoned anglers readily relate to the experiences while "newbies" soak up an amazing amount of information, accidentally gleaning vital tips that seem to crawl from the text like a caddis hatch.

Brett Prettyman is the outdoors editor for the Salt Lake Tribune, author of "Fishing Utah" and sits on the board of directors of the Outdoor Writers Association of America and Reel Recovery.

Nymphs—Volume 1 and 2 (1983)

Ernest Schwiebert

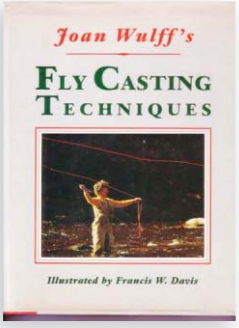


Written as both a "me and Joe went fishing" book as well as a highly technical guide to aquatic insects, "Nymphs" is the go-to book for anyone wanting to understand the world of insects below the water's surface. It is also a tour of the trout fishing world. The writing style is reader friendly with detailed sketches of the nymphs in the text. No matter where you might fish, be it central Wisconsin or in another country, this book should inspire the trout angler to learn more about what the trout in their home waters have for lunch.

A retired chemistry instructor from Wisconsin, Lee Kersten has been a TU member since 1969.

Fly Casting Techniques (1987)

Joan Wulff

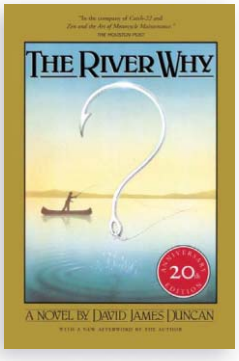


Joan Wulff's book, "Fly Casting Techniques" is a cross between a Chilton auto repair manual and a medical textbook. Mechanical and clinical, her pioneering approach to fly casting has cemented her position as the mother of modern-day casting. Wulff's hard-edged, analytical approach to casting still is the gold-standard. With the book's detailed diagrams and Wulff's mantra of "practice, practice and more practice," readers can only hope that a fraction of her deep knowledge about the art of fly casting takes residence in their technique.

Erin Mooney is the press secretary for TU and a certified L.L. Bean casting instructor.

The River Why (1983)

David James Duncan



Emblematic of the soggy Pacific Northwest culture and centric to the conflict to balance the needs of salmon and industry, this coming-of-age love story is anchored in the passion for fishing, family, relationships and maintaining a sense of place in an ever-changing world. "The River Why" is a glimpse into the forces that led to the salmon and steelhead declines in the Northwest, as seen through the eyes of an often misanthropic protagonist searching for personal and spiritual relevance through fishing. Duncan takes you to a place and time in the past unchanged and unblemished in your memory.

David Lass is TU's Northern California field director and an avid steelhead, trout and salmon angler who grew up in Portland, Ore.

The Fish

On a Wyoming river, TU volunteers go the

Rescuers

extra mile to save trapped trout

BY RANDY SCHOLFIELD
PHOTOS BY MARK CONLIN

A group of anglers wade quietly forward,

forming a line across the waist-deep water. Two of them in the lead wear backpacks attached to electrical rods that they sweep back and forth in the water, looking like beachcombing treasure hunters. Others carry buckets and nets.

"There's one," someone says, pointing to a flash of white under the water. A stunned fish floats toward the surface. One of the netters quickly glides in, poised to scoop it up. A couple of quick lunges in the water and it's in the net—a fat, trophy-size cutthroat.

"Now this is what I call fishing," someone says, grinning.

But this is a different kind of angling, a different sort of catch-and-release. On this fall weekend, these volunteers from the East Yellowstone Chapter in Wyoming are fishing with electroshock gear and a serious purpose: to save trout and native fish trapped in irrigation canals.

It's a huge, but still largely unaddressed, problem across the West: In Wyoming alone, each year, hundreds of thousands, maybe millions, of wild and native fish are trapped and die in irrigation canals. The fish move from mainstem rivers and streams into the ditches when the water is high in the spring, and then, when the water levels drop at the end of the irrigation season in October, the fish become stranded in isolated pools and short, shallow stretches.

Each year, these trapped fish die by the thousands, their bleached skeletons littering the ditches and banks.

Bob Capron thought that was a terrible waste. And he decided to do something about it. Capron is a local, born and raised in Cody. His folks were ranchers on the South Fork of the Shoshone River. He's been in the oil industry for the last 25 years, and also keeps his hand in construction work.

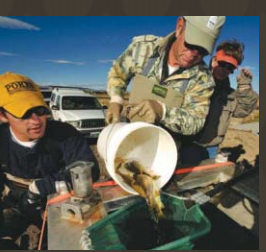
"I'm trying to retire now," he says, laughing.

As a child growing up on a Wyoming ranch, Capron witnessed firsthand the tragedy of fish entrapment in local irrigation ditches. Something registered in the boy that this wasn't right.

As an adult, he began working to find a solution. At the most basic level, it was a straightforward rescue operation. Collect the fish and physically transport them back to the mainstem Shoshone River. He started by himself with a net and a bucket.

About 10 years ago, his dogged efforts inspired his local TU chapter to get involved. They started out using seines, dragging the ditches. In recent years, volunteers have been equipped with electroshock wands. Each year, without fanfare or recognition, and in all kinds of weather, the chapter members spend long days slogging up and down ditches, rescuing trout.

On this morning, after meeting at a Cody parking lot and fortifying themselves with donuts and coffee, the group of a dozen or so volunteers convoy out to the Garland Ditch, a large irrigation canal a few miles outside of town, halfway between Cody and Powell. They drive along the canal embankment road, looking for standing pools large enough to hold trout. Already, much of the canal bed is dried up. When they find a likely pool,



Each year, without fanfare or recognition, and in all kinds of weather, the chapter members spend long days slogging up and down ditches, rescuing trout.

TROUT
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ROD AND TACKLE

they get to work: Electro-shockers up front, netters behind them, and then bucket-holders waiting to transport fish to a large oxygenated holding tank in the back of a pickup.

Some advice if you're standing near the electroshocking equipment: Don't touch the water with bare hands. You might get a tingle.

The group rescues a diversity of trout species in the canals: Rainbows, cutthroats, browns, maybe a lake trout or two. Some are small-fry, and some are lunkers that any angler would love to have on the end of his or her line.

Just like fishing, there are no guarantees. A few holes are empty. But then the action picks up. The bucketeers keep emptying fish after fish into the holding tank, as a fish counter tallies the score: ". . . 5, 6, 7, nice brown, 9, 10."

Later, they'll drive over to the Shoshone River, and release the fish into the shallows, watching them slither and shoot back into their home waters.

effects of what biologists call fish "entrainment."

How big is the problem? "More fish are lost to irrigation diversions than are consumed by humans in the entire state—this is a bigger impact," says David Sweet, past council president of Wyoming TU and another rescue regular. He uses the nearby Cody Canal on the South Fork of the Shoshone River as an example. In 2006, Wyoming Game and Fish personnel did an entrainment study of that single irrigation diversion. "Fifty thousand fish were lost in that ditch alone—and 17,000 of them were trout," he says. "That's the equivalent of taking every fish out of a 7-mile stretch of that river. And you do that every summer. No matter how good your recruitment is, you can't keep up with that kind of loss."

The fish rescuers save from 3,000-5,000 fish a year—impressive numbers, but they represent a small percentage of the overall problem. Sweet points out that there are hundreds of irrigation systems and thousands of miles of canals and ditches in the Cody area alone.

Still, this is an immediate, tangible way to ensure that healthy trout remain in the streams and rivers where they can be caught and enjoyed by fishermen. And for chapter volunteers, it's a thrill to save these beautiful fish and put them back in circulation.

The Fish Screen Solution

For all the benefits of rescuing fish, however, this bucket-brigade operation is a labor-intensive, Band-Aid approach. That's why Capron and Wyoming TU have been pushing a more permanent fix to the problem. In most cases, the solution is installing fish screens on canal headgates that let water in but keep fish out.

Continued on page 48

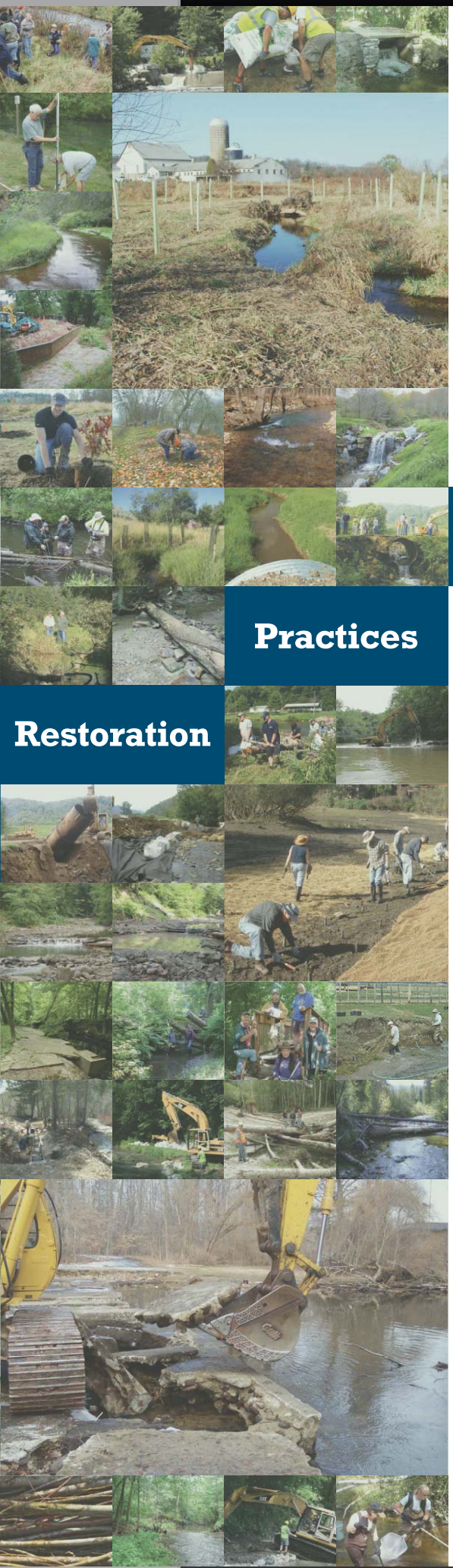
For all the benefits of rescuing fish, however, this bucket-brigade operation is a labor-intensive, Band-Aid approach. In most cases, the solution is installing fish screens on canal headgates that let water in but keep fish out.

Then they'll move on to Lakeview Canal, Cody Canal, North Fork Ditch and several other irrigation waterways. Next fall, they'll do it all over again.

Over the years, state agencies, irrigators and other partners have played a vital role in this collaborative effort. Biologist Jason Burkhardt of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department is a regular at these events. The agency has helped supply electroshocking equipment and technical advice as well as identified the best project opportunities for benefiting native Yellowstone cutthroats .

In turn, the volunteers carefully tally the numbers and species of fish they save —important data that WGFD staff rely on to monitor the long-term

Healing Troubled Waters: A Primer on Stream



Restoration Practices

By Jack E. Williams
Illustration by John Roman

The pages of *Trout* frequently host stories on the practice of stream restoration. Whether it is a small project by a local TU chapter to assist fish passage by fixing barriers like culverts, or a watershed-scale effort designed to restore the natural functions of a river and its tributaries, restoration is one of the core missions of TU. Restoration is part art and part science. Regardless of the size of the project, it is important to work with natural systems to address the core causes of harm within the existing watershed context. Stream restoration is also about finding solutions that are not only good for fish but that work for existing land owners and local communities for the long haul.

Before work on fixing stream problems can start, it is necessary to understand how streams function. Stream restoration can be vexing simply because flows can vary. Erosive forces constantly carve out banks, remove sediment from outside bends and deposit it in inside bends and deeper pools. If not constrained by bedrock or steep canyon walls, streams will form new channels and meander across entire valleys. These changes may not be obvious initially because they occur gradually over time. Nonetheless, they are a force to reckon with and must be integrated into a project's design.

Some stream changes are abrupt and can occur in real time. Heavy rains or snowmelt can push streams over their banks, inundating floodplains and riparian areas. If streams have been disconnected from their floodplains by channelization or riprap, damage from high-energy floods can quickly develop downstream. Future cycles of flood and drought are likely to be more prolonged and intense so reestablishing the connections between a stream and its floodplain should figure prominently in restoration planning.

Streams are products of their watershed. If the watershed is in good condition, flow changes are likely to be more gradual. If a sizable portion of the surrounding land is covered with roads, buildings or other hard surfaces, runoff occurs more rapidly and peak flows are higher. Watersheds altered by recent wildfire, numerous row crops or overgrazed meadows may shed large quantities of silt and clays into streams during runoff. Similarly, runoff from urban areas may send toxic oils and other hydrocarbons into stream systems. Ultimately, stream restoration should seek to address the root causes of degradation and to restore streams to their natural condition.

The diagram on the next four pages demonstrates the approach that often goes into stream restoration. While it is important to understand that there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach to restoring a stream's natural functions, the diagram provides a sense of common methods employed in the art and science of stream restoration.

The Art and Science of Stream Restoration

To successfully restore a stream to its natural condition, it is important that the project has clear goals and objectives that are agreed to by all project partners; addresses the root causes of decline rather than simply the symptoms of the problem; works with the natural forces of stream flow and erosion and assists the stream in healing itself, rather than working against those forces; works at the watershed level and within long-term time frames, rather than focusing on shorter stream reaches and shorter periods of time; and includes provisions to monitor and maintain the project over the coming years, rather than completing the work and walking away.

Riparian zone re-establishment

PROBLEM: Livestock overgrazing is compacting streamside soils and preventing robust growth of riparian vegetation.

SOLUTION: Construct wildlife-friendly fencing 100 feet from stream channel to exclude cattle and encourage riparian plant growth.

Restoring instream fish habitat

PROBLEM: The stream channel has become simplified over time, lacking habitat diversity and deep pools.

SOLUTION: Introduce logs, root wads and large boulders throughout the channel, which will help build more diverse habitats as stream flows interact with these structures to dig holes and move sediment. These habitat structures are simply placed into the stream channel and not cabled or otherwise locked into place, allowing the stream to dictate their most appropriate location.

Willow weaving

PROBLEM: Soil erosion over time has created steep-cut banks and dewatered meadow area.

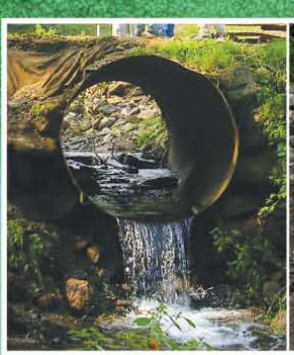
SOLUTION: Weave willow cuttings together and connect them to the cut bank to slow erosive flows, capture silt and create a vegetated and more natural streambank that is more resistant to erosion.

Tributary silt reduction

PROBLEM: Tributary stream is contributing high volumes of fine silt because of uncontrolled upstream development.

SOLUTION: Using native seed sources, create shallow wetlands along the tributary's downstream end as a way to capture silt and decrease stream sedimentation.

VERA LEOPOLD/THE WETLANDS INITIATIVE



FAR RIGHT: JIM YUSKAVITCH

Culvert replacement

PROBLEM: Poorly designed culvert prohibits free movement of fish, invertebrates and stream substrates.

SOLUTION: Replace existing culvert with bottomless archway culvert or bridge design to facilitate free upstream and downstream movement.

Small dam removal

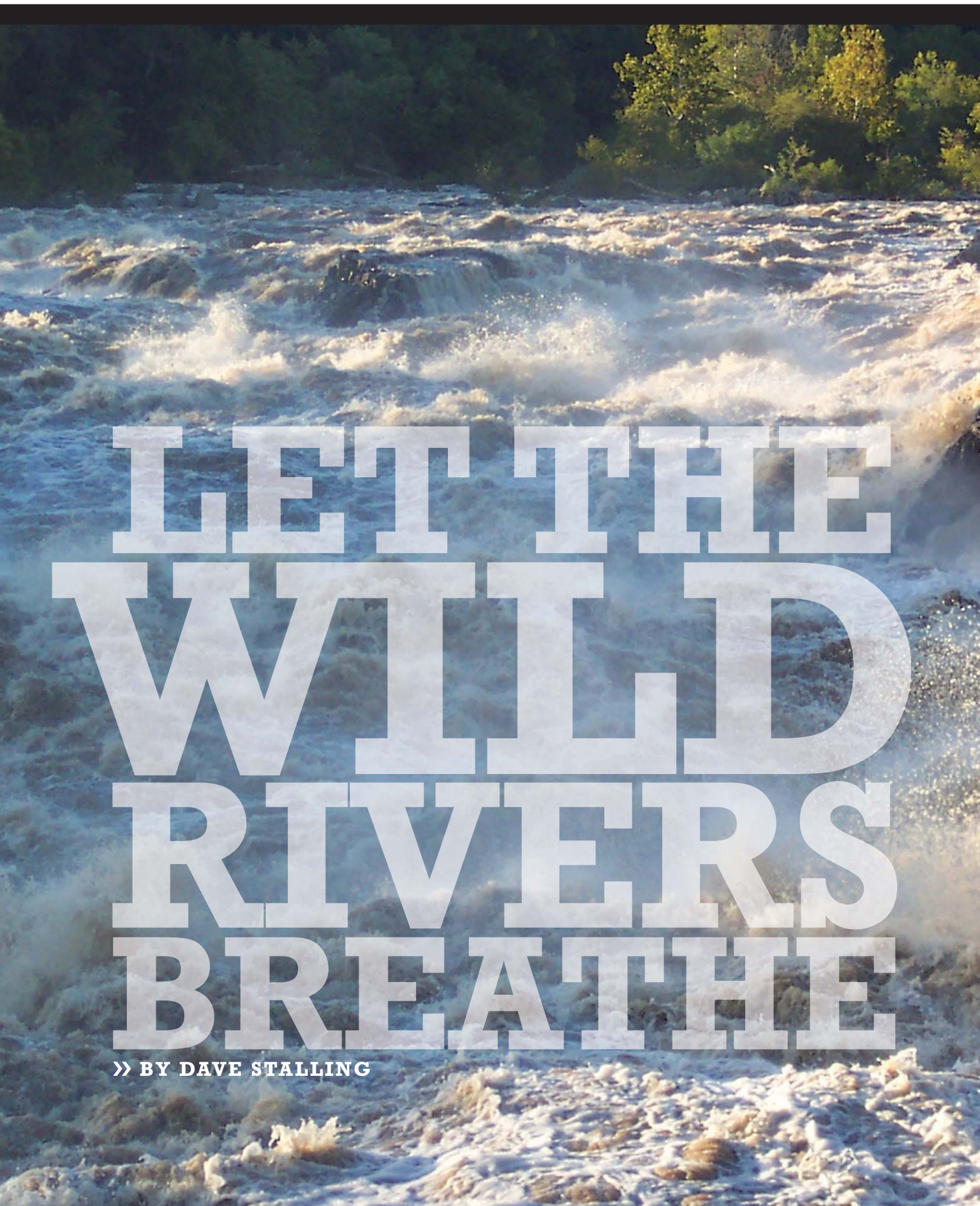
PROBLEM: Small irrigation dam blocks fish passage.

SOLUTION: The irrigation dam is removed and replaced with a diversion and rock sills that provide for irrigation water while allowing upstream passage of fish and other aquatic creatures.

Irrigation canal screening

PROBLEM: Fish enter irrigation canals from the mainstem river and are trapped and die when water levels drop in the fall.

SOLUTION: Work with the landowner to install screens, which will prevent fish from entering the canals while making the canals easier to maintain by keeping debris out.



LET THE WILD RIVERS BREATHE

» BY DAVE STALLING

VOICES FROM THE RIVER

I was hiking along Rattlesnake Creek on the outskirts of my home in Missoula on a cold January afternoon when I heard a thunderous roar up ahead, like the sound of a derailed freight train crashing through the trees. Then I saw a wall of ice and water coming my way and I quickly climbed a little higher up the bank where I could safely watch the water and ice tumble and careen by. In a matter of minutes, the creek rose at least four feet and a few small trees rushed past (Another witness later said he saw a dead beaver float by.) The normally crystalline water turned coffee-colored and the air had a scent similar to an ocean's low tide, due to the churning gravel and scraping of the river bottom. The river receded nearly as quickly as it rose, leaving piles of ice along the bank that looked like giant white dominos pushed on their sides.

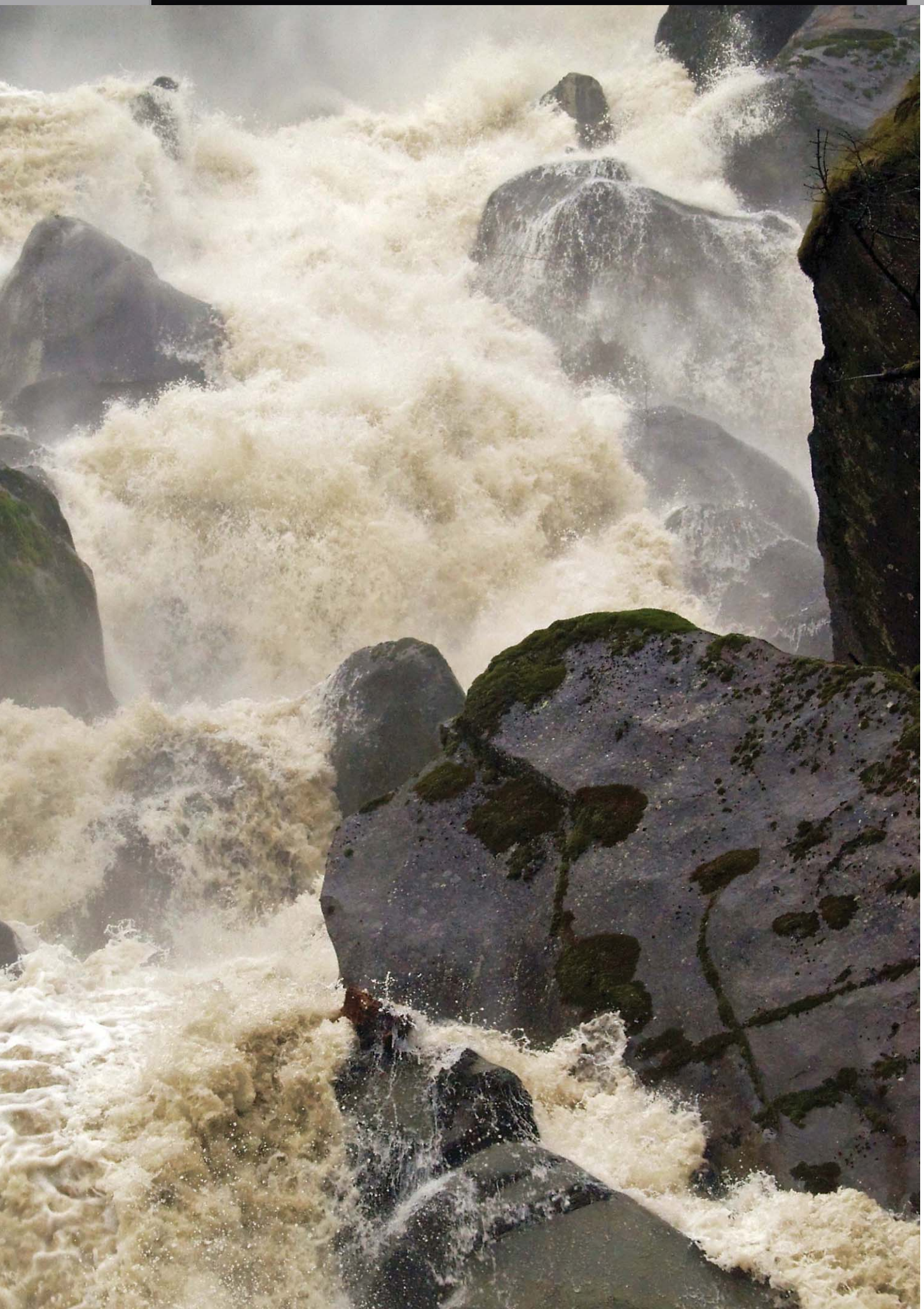
It was a spectacular show of force, as only nature can put on, and a remarkable site to see. It was only remarkable to me; for the creek, it was just another deep breath of change as rivers tend to do once in awhile when left to run free and wild.

In an article for the July 1994 issue of *Audubon* entitled, "The River Always Wins," writer Ted Williams tells about a time when one of the "earth's great rivers" broke over its banks and raged through its watershed. "The river was the Yukon," he wrote. "And if you hadn't heard that it overflowed, it's because no one but the river wrote about it. Since people do not dare to live in it, which is to say on the regularly inundated floodplain, the media ignore its naturally fluctuating water levels. The Yukon just basks python-like in the thin Arctic sun, coiled between the Bering Sea and the alpine lakes of British Columbia, breathing in and breathing out."

Until the Aswan Dam was constructed in the 1960s, the people of Egypt counted on the regular spring flooding of the Nile to enrich the soil of the floodplains with nutrient rich silt for healthy crops. Here in the United States, we too used the flood-fertile soils of the Mississippi River floodplain to successfully grow large quantities of food. That was until we built dams and levees, straightened, deepened and restructured river channels, harnessed and tamed a once great wild river, built homes and cities in the flood plain and did all we could (with limited success) to control and eliminate flooding. Along parts of the Colorado River, officials now annually release water from dams to emulate flooding in an attempt to improve rivers that have been negatively affected by dams and the absence of flooding—similar to lighting small, prescribed fires in forests to emulate wild fires.

Floods flush rivers of old silt and sedimentation, pump new insect- and fish-feeding nutrients into the rivers and enrich the floodplains and watersheds surrounding them.

Like the wild fires that helped shape the forests of the West—periodically clearing underbrush, recycling nutrients and otherwise keeping fire-evolved and fire-dependent forests healthier—floods flush rivers of old silt and sedimentation, pump new insect- and fish-feeding nutrients into the rivers and enrich the floodplains



and watersheds surrounding them. It's when homes burn, houses and bridges wash down rivers and human lives are lost we consider fire and flood "catastrophic" and "devastating"—which, of course, they are to those affected.

Just as our efforts to suppress and contain wildfire has often led to accumulated fuels, denser and thicker forests more susceptible to insects and disease, and therefore less frequent but more intense and damaging fires, our efforts to control and subjugate rivers have led to more accumulated water, fewer places for water to run off and less frequent but more intense and damaging floods.

It's easy to forget when looking at a particular stretch of river that it's just one piece of a giant system, like fingers connected to hands connected to arms connected to bodies. There are small tributaries to the Rattlesnake—like Beescove Creek—and the Rattlesnake, in turn, is just one of many tributaries to the Clark Fork, which is a tributary to the Columbia, which eventually joins the great big body part we call the Pacific. Just as blood must move freely throughout the body, water—and the fish it sustains—must be able to move freely up and down and throughout the system. Unfortunately, we've clogged and tainted a lot of the pieces of the system with erosion, siltation, dams, diversions and the introduction of non-native species that threaten the life blood of our rivers and the life they sustain. When the entire system is healthy and intact, trout and other aquatic life fare better. Even natural drought, fire and flood can be devastating to aquatic life if they are disconnected from and not free to move about the rest of the system. Simply put: If trout are free to move up and down and between tributaries and rivers they are more apt to not only survive flooding, but actually thrive from it—as are we all. It's only when our homes and lives are put in the way that fire and flood become dangerous and destructive.

In most of the West, land managers are learning more and more about the importance of fire, and leaving room, where they can, for fires to burn. (Or, in some cases, intentionally putting fire back into the system with prescribed burns.) By following the Trout Unlimited model of protecting the wildness of upper tributaries, reconnecting them to their rivers and restoring and sustaining the integrity of entire watersheds we can and should leave room for floods and recognize not only the good they do when we are not in the way, but also their importance.

We can and should leave room for floods and recognize not only the good they do when we are not in the way, but also their importance.

I am glad Rattlesnake Creek still has room to be wild and free and has the space to breathe—to do what it has likely done for eons. And its inhabitants, including the bull trout and westslope cutthroat, still have room to move and survive. A healthy, intact system survives flood and fire; an unhealthy, non-intact system does not.

Rivers flow, rivers swirl, rivers rise and fall and rivers flood. Like watching a powerful grizzly roll huge boulders around in search of marmot; or seeing a giant whale's tale break the surface of the ocean; or witnessing an avalanche take out a small copse of trees—the flood I witnessed was just another spectacular, intimidating and humbling display of nature at work; a dose of wildness and freedom. We need to ensure we always have room in our lives for such events, that we learn to live sustainably with rivers while leaving them room to live and breathe.

Do you have an idea for a Voices submission? If so, we'd love to hear from you. Send your essay to skinsella@tu.org

The Fish Rescuers

Continued from page 35

The problem is, fish screens are expensive: They can cost from $30,000 for a smaller, revolving drum-type screen up to $1 million or more to screen larger canals such as the Cody and Garland. TU has been working with state and federal agencies, landowners and other partners to find funding for the fish screen projects.

"With so much aging infrastructure across the West, this represents an enormous opportunity to upgrade irrigation systems and make them more fish-friendly," says Cory Toye, director of TU's Wyoming Water Project. "This is the best way to ensure healthy trout populations aren't being siphoned away to die in fields and canals."

TU's Western Water Project, which operates in Wyoming and six other states, as well as TU's Watersheds Program, have been at the forefront of on-the-ground efforts to reconnect fragmented streams and restore habitat at the watershed level. In Wyoming, the WWP has been finishing projects at a break-neck pace of late, opening up hundreds of miles of native trout habitat on watersheds such as Spread Creek and the Greybull River.

Toye says fish screen installations are a common feature of many projects—and so is the active participation of landowners and ranchers. "Most ranchers care about being stewards of the rivers and streams, and they want to be part of the solution. From a practical standpoint, they want a more efficient and less labor-intensive irrigation system, too. The benefits go beyond trout."

Near Cody, on a small creek feeding the North Fork of the Shoshone, the East Yellowstone chapter is working with local ranch owners and WGFD to install fish screens on this critical spawning tributary for Yellowstone cutthroat trout.

"Most people in agriculture don't want to see fish floundering around in their fields," said ranch foreman Joel Gough. "They want them in the rivers where they belong."

Every ditch situation is different, said Gough, and sometimes presents unique engineering challenges. It's been trial and error. But he says ranchers and landowners benefit from these irrigation upgrades—the screens keep limbs and debris out of ditches and require lower maintenance.

He's enjoyed working with TU, he says. "It's good working with people who have a genuine care about what they're doing and are doing it on a volunteer basis."

Last year, in recognition of his decades of fish rescue efforts, Bob Capron was named one of *Field and Stream* magazine's Heroes of Conservation.

"It was one of the high points of my life," he says.

He's not looking for recognition, though. He just does it, he says, because it's the right thing to do. He has two kids and eight grandkids—and they fish. That's what motivates him to keep sloshing through ditches, year after year. "I want to leave the fishing as good as I had it as a kid, or even better."

Capron likes the fact that local school kids are getting involved. Last year, classes from local schools came out and helped rescue the fish. They had a blast.

And who knows? Seeing a huge cutthroat trout rescued just might inspire one of them to care for their local rivers and places—as it did with a young Bob Capron.

To see a *Field and Stream* video of Bob Capron, go to **TU.ORG/BLOG**

TU has been working with state and federal agencies, landowners and other partners to find funding for the fish screen projects.

News from the Field

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Grassroots Spotlight

On-the-ground chapter success stories

Wisconsin and Illinois Chapters Recognized for their Enthusiastic Volunteer Work

WISCONSIN AND ILLINOIS

TU's Gary Borger Chapter and the Southeast Wisconsin Chapter have been instrumental in providing support for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Paradise Springs, Scuppernong River and Genesee Creek trout habitat restoration projects in Waukesha County. As a result of their work, in March of 2011 both chapters were recognized by the WDNR and were awarded the 2009-10 External Partner/ Cooperator Award.

Since 2008, the GBTU and SEWTU chapters have repeatedly responded to the call for local volunteer assistance on restoration projects and provided materials, volunteer hours and financial assistance. Regardless of weather conditions, distance of travel or desirability of tasks, the chapters have shown strong dedication and commitment to restoring valuable and unique fisheries resource in the southeast portion of Wisconsin.

Paradise Springs is located near Eagle, Wis. in the Kettle Moraine State Forest. The stream flows from a popular trout pond and winds through a nearby prairie before joining the Scuppernong River, approximately two miles downstream. Since the first stream restoration and bank structure installation, trout habitat has improved dramatically.

Both chapters have enthusiastically agreed to contribute to the habitat maintenance and restoration projects. Their contributions have included the following: fabricated over 150 Lunker structures, installed a quarter mile of bank cover erosion-control techniques, installed biologs for erosion control and bank stabilization, collected local prairie seed as a part of the Scuppernong Prairie restoration effort, removed instream invasive aquatic plants, assisted in bank cover installation, donated thousands of dollars of funding for LUNKER structure fabrication and acquired an Embrace-A-Stream National TU grant and a Friends of Wisconsin TU Grant for use on Paradise Springs Creek.

"Partnerships make TU powerful and effective," says past GBTU President Matt Jennings and past Director of Conservation Jim Bailey. "By forming our partnership we were able to double our pool of volunteers, share the fund-raising and food preparation responsibilities and build strong relationships within and between our chapters."

Naugatuck River Clean-up

CONNECTICUT

The Northwestern Connecticut TU Chapter 009 first started cleaning up the Naugatuck River in approximately 1996 and continued alone in the effort until finally joining with the Torrington Conservation Commission in June of 2006. Since then, the chapter has continued in partnership with the TCC each June for the past six years. The section of river the chapter works on is from Torrington, Conn. down river to the Army Corps of Engineers' dam in Thomaston, Conn. Over this period, chapter members have taken many items out of the river and along its banks. The items pulled from the river include numerous shopping carts, car batteries, tires, lots of metal and even a transmission. Many personal items such as clothes and even a wallet containing personal identification items have been found.

The project has become a community effort. Boy Scouts, community members and school children and their parents have pitched in to help. Area businesses and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection provide the volunteers with gloves, garbage bags, dumpsters and heavy equipment to help dispose of the debris. The chapter provides food and drink to all the volunteers before and after the clean-up. The clean-up has become so popular that many community members look forward to volunteering every year.

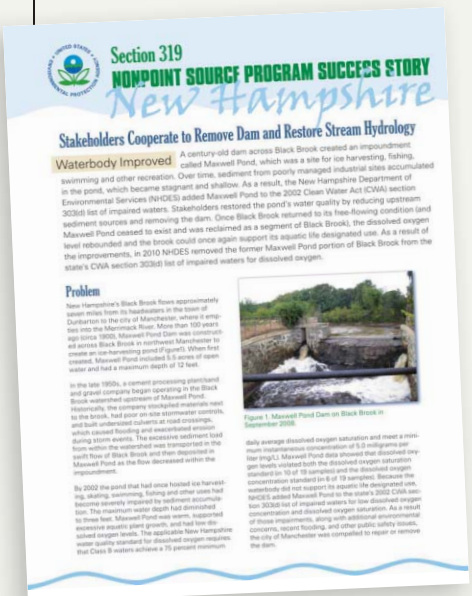
"Chapter members are looking forward to the day when the clean-up will no longer be necessary. Each year we find less to pick up so someday we just might get our wish," says Dave Paavola

Black Brook Officially Removed from List of Impaired Waters

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Black Brook was officially de-listed from the 303(d) list of impaired waters and now meets requirements for supporting aquatic life, thanks in part to the work of the local TU chapter. The 303(d) list is comprised of those waters that are polluted for a variety of reasons, thereby restricting or impairing their beneficial uses—such as drinking water, recreation, aquatic habitat and industrial use. Black Brook was removed from the list at the end of 2010. Water problems began due to a century-old dam, which created an impoundment known as Maxwell Pond. Over time, sediment from poorly managed industrial sites accumulated in the pond. The pond became shallow and stagnant, which eventually lead to Black Brook's name being added to the list of impaired waters. Once the dam that created Maxwell Pond was removed, and Black Brook returned to its free-flowing condition, the dissolved oxygen levels rebounded and the brook could once again support aquatic life. The improvements led to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services removing the former Maxwell Pond portion of Black Brook from the state's list of impaired waters for dissolved oxygen. The Merrimack River Valley Chapter, led by TU national staff member Jim MacCartney and others, has been actively working in the Black Brook watershed for at least nine years. The EPA sent a note of recognition to the chapter because the chapter helped provide the last grant needed for the dam removal.

"Given the number of other groups claiming credit for the effort, it was especially gratifying to see the EPA highlight TU's role starting back in 2002," says Joe McGurrin, TU's director of resources.



Section 319

NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY

New Hampshire

Stakeholders Cooperate to Remove Dam and Restore Stream Hydrology

Waterbody Improved

A century-old dam across Black Brook created an impoundment called Maxwell Pond, which was a site for ice harvesting, fishing, swimming and other recreation. Over time, sediment from poorly managed industrial sites accumulated in the pond, which became stagnant and shallow. As a result, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) added Maxwell Pond to the 2002 Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list of impaired waters. Stakeholders restored the pond's water quality by reducing upstream sediment sources and removing the dam. Once Black Brook returned to its free-flowing condition (and Maxwell Pond ceased to exist and was reclaimed as a segment of Black Brook), the dissolved oxygen level rebounded and the brook could once again support its aquatic life designated use. As a result of the improvements, in 2010 NHDES removed the former Maxwell Pond portion of Black Brook from the state's CWA section 303(d) list of impaired waters for dissolved oxygen.

Problem

New Hampshire's Black Brook flows approximately seven miles from its headwaters in the town of Dunbarton to the city of Manchester, where it empties into the Merrimack River. More than 100 years ago (circa 1900), Maxwell Pond Dam was constructed across Black Brook in northwest Manchester to create an ice-harvesting pond (Figure1). When first created, Maxwell Pond included 5.5 acres of open water and had a maximum depth of 12 feet.

In the late 1900s, a cement processing plant/sand and gravel company began operating in the Black Brook watershed upstream of Maxwell Pond. Historically, the company stockpiled materials next to the brook, had poor on-site stormwater controls, and built undersized culverts at road crossings, which caused flooding and exacerbated erosion during storm events. The excessive sediment load from within the watershed was transported in the swift flow of Black Brook and then deposited in Maxwell Pond as the flow decreased within the impoundment.

By 2002 the pond that had once hosted ice harvesting, skating, swimming, fishing and other uses had become severely impaired by sediment accumulation. The maximum water depth had diminished to three feet. Maxwell Pond was warm, supported excessive aquatic plant growth, and had low dissolved oxygen levels. The applicable New Hampshire water quality standard for dissolved oxygen requires that Class B waters achieve a 75 percent minimum daily average dissolved oxygen saturation and meet a minimum instantaneous concentration of 5.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L). Maxwell Pond data showed that dissolved oxygen levels violated both the dissolved oxygen saturation standard (in 10 of 19 samples) and the dissolved oxygen concentration standard (in 6 of 19 samples). Because the waterbody did not support its aquatic life designated use, NHDES added Maxwell Pond to the state's 2002 CWA section 303(d) list of impaired waters for low dissolved oxygen concentration and dissolved oxygen saturation. As a result of those impairments, along with additional environmental concerns, recent flooding, and other public safety issues, the city of Manchester was compelled to repair or remove the dam.

Figure 1. Maxwell Pond Dam on Black Brook in September 2008.

Pioneer Valley TU opens Manahan additional eight miles

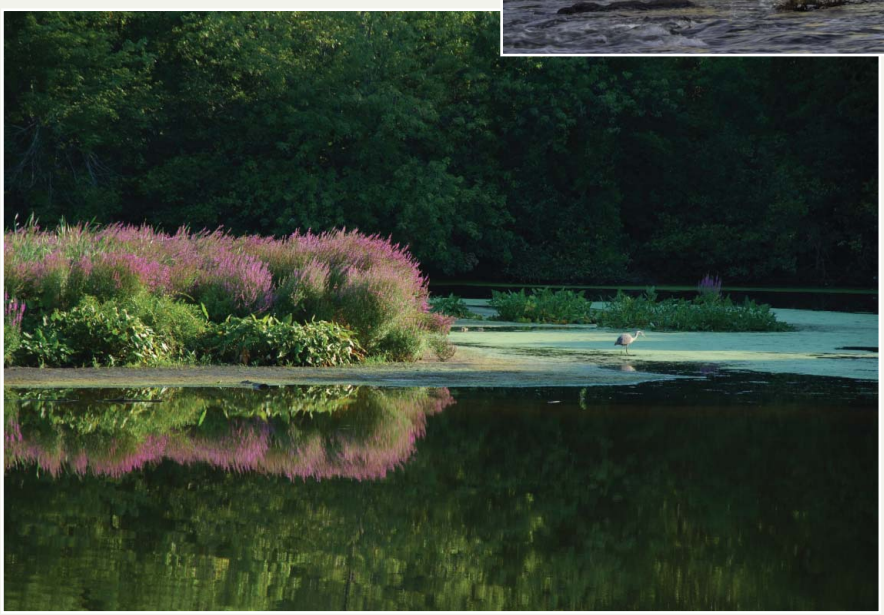
MASSACHUSETTS

The Pioneer Valley Chapter recently assisted the city of Easthampton, Mass. and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the construction of 67 wooden baffles that will be installed as part of the Manahan River fish ladder. The Manahan is a tributary to the Connecticut River. When the project is completed this year, the ladder will allow shad, blue back herring and American eel access to an additional eight miles of tributary streams and spawning waters above the dam. Juvenile Atlantic salmon in the upper Manahan will benefit as well by being able to get past the dam by using the ladder rather than being swept over the dam. The project is the culmination of years of advocacy for the ladder by the chapter as well as the hard work of Mike Tautznik, the mayor of Easthampton.

Chapter Uses Media to Get Their Message Out

RHODE ISLAND

The Northern Rhode Island Chapter of TU has taken to the media to get the word out on the chapter's mission and the local waters in northern Rhode Island. A dozen members assisted in the production of a short video feature shown on the internet by "WFN"—the World Fishing Network. The video highlights the Blackstone River, an old mill river that was heavily polluted, which is now experiencing a resurgence of life and has become a fine freshwater fishery. The river, once lined with numerous mills, winds approximately 46 miles from Worcester in central Massachusetts through Rhode Island and eventually into the Atlantic Ocean. At one time the river had runs of migratory salmon and other anadromous species, as well as cold and warm water fish. In partnership with Robert Michelson, the film's director and producer, the chapter was able to highlight the river's history, TU's goal of returning salmon runs to the river, and more importantly, its ongoing reemergence into a healthy fishery. However, the rebirth of the river did not occur overnight. Since the river was incorporated into a federal park 30 years ago, dedicated volunteers from the chapter, as well as the Narragansett and Central Massachusetts chapters, have spent numerous hours working alongside other conservation-focused groups to restore the river. The Northern R.I. chapter encourages other TU members to visit the WFN website (worldfishingnetwork.com) to view the Blackstone River video.



Trout in the Classroom Outreach Program

ILLINOIS

The Trout in the Classroom program usually takes place within the confines of a school for its entire duration—from the delivery of the eggs until the fry are released—and the core participants have typically been limited to students, teachers and volunteers. However, recently the Gary Borger Chapter of northern Illinois wanted to bring the program and its mission to a broader audience. Fung Chin, area Trout in the Classroom coordinator, designed a solution to achieve that goal through the use of a TU booth at a local community outdoor show in northern Illinois. The activity included transporting the rainbow trout, maintaining the environment equal to the main tank throughout the entire day and finally returning the trout to the school. The undertaking was a success and no fish were lost. The effort was repeated at two more events.

A 10 gallon aquarium was used to house a dozen 2 ½ to 3 inch rainbow trout for the

viewing public. The aquarium was a major draw and a traffic builder for the chapter's booth. Young children were encouraged to feed the trout and everyone could watch the behavior and feeding habits of the fish.

The second and third events took place at an L.L. Bean retail store in a Chicago suburb during their 21st annual Spring Fishing Weekend in March. The aquarium was the centerpiece of the exhibit. At each of the events, hundreds of people came by to see the fish and learn about TU's mission.

"This was also an effective recruitment tool, as a number of interested teachers signed up for information on the Gary Borger Chapter's Trout in the Classroom program. By all measures, it helped reach a broader audience," says Chin.

Bonneville Cutthroat Restored

UTAH & NEVADA

Utah Chapter 705 and the state council have been working since the late 1990s to keep the waters of the Great Basin, including Spring Creek, healthy. Spring Creek runs through the Goshute reservation, and after they discovered the population of Bonneville cutthroat no longer existed, chapter members began the process of reintroduction by raising 300 Bonneville eggs. They have worked hard to build a rock weir dam and a diversion gate, among other projects, to help restore the population of cutthroat to the stream. It took five years for the spring-fed stream to reach its current population of 800 to 2,000 fish per mile in its three-mile reach.

The hard work has paid off, not just in Spring Creek, but in all seven perennial streams on the reservation where populations of Bonneville have been recovered. Along with the streams on the reservation, all seven perennial streams on the east slope of Deep Creek Range also have recovered populations of the fish. The persistence of all those involved over the years, including TU member Don Duff, has helped the mountain range go from only three partial reach streams with populations of pure Bonneville cutthroats—about one mile total—to over 50 miles of occupied habitat in 14 streams.

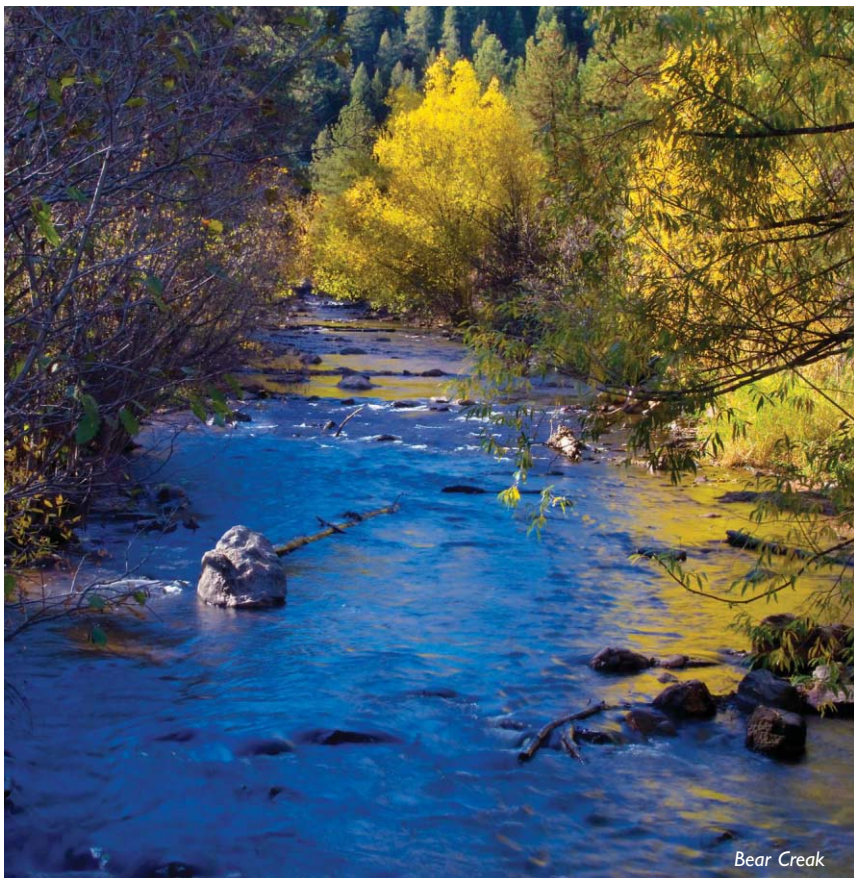
In 1975 while surveying the population of Bonneville in the Great Basin area, Don Duff discovered a unique pure strain of Pyramid Lake Lahontan Cutthroat. This pure strain was then verified by Robert Behnke, shown above with a Lahontan. This spring was Behnke's first trip to Pilot Peak to see the fish he classified.

New license plates approved in Texas

The Texas Legislature approved Guadalupe River Chapter's petition for a charity organization license plate to benefit the chapter's efforts to reintroduce the Rio Grande cutthroat as well as other projects. Here's chapter member Mick McCorcle's new license plate, just ordered from the state of Texas.

Tools & Tips...
From the Tackle Box

By Beverly Smith
Director of Volunteer Operations


Bear Creak

Embrace-a-Stream

Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) is the flagship grant program for funding TU's grassroots conservation efforts. Since its inception in 1975, EAS has funded over 980 individual projects for a total of more than $4 million in direct cash grants. Local TU chapters and councils contributed an additional $13 million in cash and in-kind services to EAS funded projects for a total investment of more than $17 million. In 2011, the EAS funded 25 projects in 15 states, with an average grant award of $5,000.

Every year TU distributes Embrace-a-Stream application materials via e-mail to volunteer leaders. Watch your email inbox for the application package for TU's competitive grant program in early October and contact your local Embrace-a-Stream representative if your chapter is considering applying for funds. Visit www.tu.org/eas for more information.

Annual Financial Reports

The Annual Financial Report (AFR) is now live in the Leaders Only section of the TU website. The AFR is a simple, internal tool that helps gauge the overall health of the organization. TU chapters and councils use the AFR to report key financial and volunteer-based information. This data is crucial to ensure that TU is in compliance with the obligations of a 501 (c)(3) organization. The AFR also demonstrates the output of TU's volunteer efforts. **Please be sure to submit your chapter's or council's Annual Financial Report by November 15.**

For treasurers new to this process, we will host an online training on October 19 at 8 p.m. Eastern time to briefly review the AFR format as well as the required IRS forms. TU's Chief Financial Officer, Hillary Coley, will be on hand to answer any specific questions you might have regarding recent changes to IRS forms and what they mean for you. To join our online training, or if you have questions, contact Rob Keith at rkeith@tu.org.

A New Kind of Rebate for Chapters & Councils

Looking for a little extra cash for your chapter or council? Sign up your local fly shop, guide service or any local business as an Outfitter, Guide & Business (OGB) member at the $295 level and receive a $50 rebate for your chapter. Visit www.tu.org/ogb for more information.

TROUT UNLIMITED O·G·B — Outfitters, Guides & Businesses MEMBER

TU's Logo

Have you ever been frustrated trying to resize the TU logo and it becomes so small that the words 'Trout Unlimited' are illegible? To better support online, digital and other communications, two new horizontal logo layouts have been added to the new TU Policy on Logo and Brand Use 2011 and to the online Style and Media Guide. The new formats use the same elements and colors as the current logo, but allow the trout image to be placed to the left of the words Trout Unlimited. Hopefully, these two options will help you make your digital media like PowerPoint and e-mail signatures look great and still allow the TU brand and logo to shine.

To view the new guidelines please visit the online Tacklebox at www.tu.org/member-services/welcome-to-my-tu/tackle-box/style-guide

Real Property

Acquiring ownership of land, either by purchase or by accepting it as a gift or bequest, can involve serious risks for a chapter or council. Those risks include potential liability for any pollution or hazardous waste associated with the land. At its meeting in June, the board of trustees adopted a policy requiring that the board itself must approve any purchase or other acquisition of real property after June 14, 2011. If the national organization, a chapter or a council acquires ownership of land after that date without the approval of the Board, the acquisition will not be binding on TU and will be grounds for appropriate action by the Board against the chapter or council violating the policy. If your chapter or council wishes to purchase land, or is offered land as a gift or a bequest, contact Volunteer Operations staff to start the process of board review before committing to the purchase or before accepting the gift or bequest. A due diligence review will be promptly undertaken under the direction of the Board to determine if there are unacceptable risks associated with the real property such as toxic waste pollution, title disputes or other property conditions which would create serious potential liability. This risk determination will be made in a timely matter.

calendar

All trainings are held at 8:00 p.m. Eastern time. Contact Volunteer Operations coordinator Rob Keith at rkeith@tu.org for call-in details.

October 1:
Annual Financial Report Available Online

October 11:
Online Training: Chapter Communications Best Practices

October 19:
Online Training: Chapter Annual Financial Reporting

November 2:
Online Training: Embrace-a-Stream

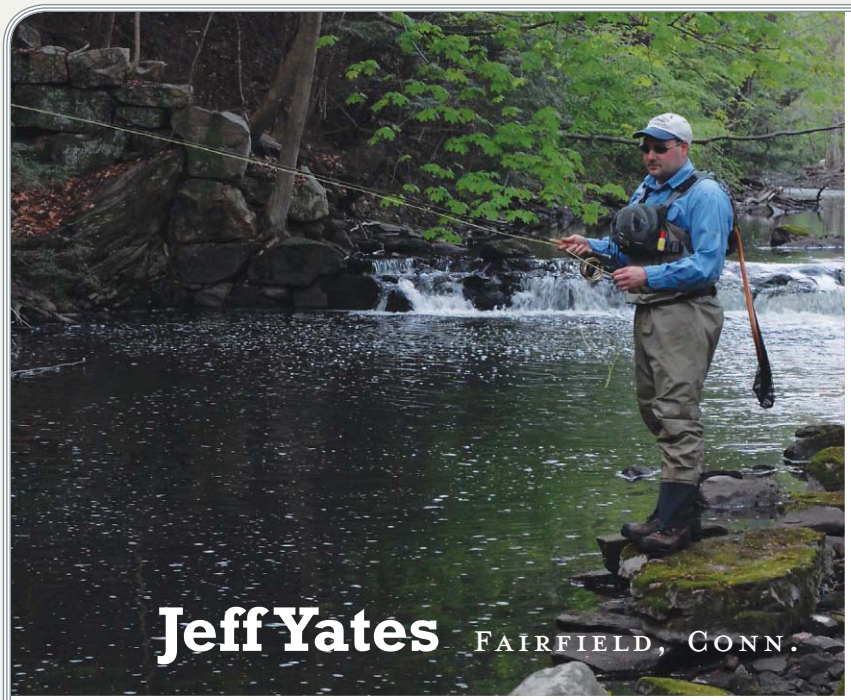
November 5:
Mid-South Regional Meeting in Arkansas

November 15:
Annual Financial Reports Submission Deadline

April 21, 2012:
TU Stream Clean-Up Day

June 23, 2012:
TU Stream Clean-Up Day

September 2012:
Annual Meeting in Ashville, N.C.



Jeff Yates Fairfield, Conn.

Favorite Fly:
Jeff's Killer Caddis (created when he was 13)

Favorite Place to Fish:
Norwalk River (as a fourth generation resident)

Most Memorable Fish:
Duncan's rainbow (see above) as well as a native brook trout caught less than a mile from a major highway, which shows they are still managing to hang on.

Like a lot of people, Jeff Yates loves his hometown. But in the case of Jeff, a TU member since the age of 13, he has made a career out of finding ways to enhance and give back to the community's residents—both those of human *and* trout persuasions.

During his day job with the Fairfield County Community Foundation, Yates highlights charitable giving opportunities for people seeking to donate within the local community. In his spare time, as a fly fishing instructor and guide, he finds enjoyment in introducing people to angling and streams they might otherwise only pass by in their daily travels.

"While the primary goal of my company, Flyfishing Connecticut, is to help clients learn about access points and techniques that will make them successful anglers on their own, it isn't long before I'm giving lessons on insect entomology, stream flows, freshwater conservation and natural history," says Yates.

His work as a fly fishing instructor recently involved taking a boy and his grandfather out on Fairfield County's fresh and salt waters for a fishing lesson. As 11-year-old Duncan caught his first Rainbow trout, Yates couldn't help but think, "That was me!"

That's because Yates joined TU 17 years ago as a result of fishing with his father. He became a lifetime member during his twenties and joined the Mianus Chapter board upon graduating from college. Now just thirty, Yates has expanded his volunteer work to include duties as Connecticut's representative on the National Leadership Council. That position has led to more responsibilities including state-based conservation advocacy, and most recently, planning the 2011 Northeastern Regional Meeting for TU chapter and council leaders from nine states.

To further add to his accomplishments, Jeff will soon self-publish a book entitled, "Fly Fishing Fairfield County: Secrets of Suburban Streams, an angler's guide to the 19 rivers in 23 towns in Fairfield County, Conn."

"My role at TU has changed with every age—starting with learning how to cast and tie a fly—to lending my professional skills for advocacy, communications and strategic planning," says Yates.

Jan Allard, a longtime TU member and volunteer who has known Jeff since childhood, would agree. "Jeff personifies TU, an organization made up of folks who love their local streams first and advocate for them. He's an accomplished angler who has visited all the fly-fishing 'hot spots' but he never forgets his roots here in Connecticut."

Allard, a former grassroots trustee for TU, adds, "Every now and then a young adult comes along with a twinkle in his eye, the passion and energy of youth and wisdom of the ages. Jeff is one of those people."

Art of Angling

[By Dave Whitlock]

Trout Profiles: Dolly Varden

Salvelinus Malma

In the fall, mature, male Dolly Varden may well be the most vividly colored, handsomely marked and strikingly beautiful member of the char family. Dolly Varden are closely connected regionally and genetically to bull trout and Arctic char. The species can be hard to tell apart and have often been confused, misunderstood, and disrespected historically by biologists and fishermen. The Dolly Varden's native range in North America is divided into a southern and northern subspecies—north and south of the Alaska Peninsula. The southern subspecies extends south only to Puget Sound in Washington state. The less common northern subspecies extends far north of Alaska.

Dolly Varden thrive best in the most pristine and remote, coldwater streams, lakes and coastal areas, preferring water temperatures of 55 F and lower. Their maximum size is closely related to the size of waters in which they reside. In the smallest streams the species seldom reaches 2 pounds, while those that live in large, food-rich waters may average 4 to 6 pounds and grow to a maximum of 15 to 20 inches during their 7 to 12 year life spans. The world record Dolly was an anadromous fish weighing an incredible 19 ¼ pounds caught in 1998 along the Kotzebue Sound area of Alaska.

Dolly Varden mature in four to five years and spawn in September or October, usually every other year after their first spawn. I was surprised to read in Dr. Robert Behnke's "Trout and Salmon of North America" that they do not spawn adjacent to bull trout or Arctic char that inhabit the same regions. Thus, there is no record of them hybridizing with each other. I find this to be an amazing circumstance and an example of how well nature works when not tampered with. Anadromous Dolly Varden have a unique behavior. They enter their home rivers to spawn every other year, but in the years they do not spawn they leave saltwater in the fall and spend the winter in lakes outside their home watersheds. During the years they are in saltwater they stay relatively near shore and feed mostly on crustaceans and small fish.

The Dolly reportedly got its name from a colorful, fictional lady character in Charles Dickens' novel "Barnaby Rudge." These brilliantly colored fish have rich, emerald green backs that merge into metallic slate blue on the mid-sides and, on spawning males, shades of golden-yellow to fiery oranges and reds. Their backs, flanks and upper belly are profusely covered with deep-crimson spots that are haloed with gold or lavender. Pectoral, pelvic, anal and caudal fins are starkly edged with iridescent white and accented with black and pinks, oranges or crimsons. Just describing Dollies makes this artist get goose bumps and makes me impatient to illustrate them. The only thing better is holding a fresh-caught fish for a deep (but quick) gaze.

Dolly Varden are typical opportunistic-feeding char that will eat almost anything including insects, salmon eggs, small fish, crustaceans and even dead salmon flesh. They will occasionally surface feed but usually prefer to feed close to the bottom and in deeper, slower water. Look for them where the run is deepest or in long, deep pools. I've found they like submerged trees, big boulders and sharp, ledge drop-offs. If you know how to tempt a big bull trout, use the same methods and artificials for Dolly Varden. The most productive flies for Dollies are those that are natural food imitators or flashy attraction streamers. That list includes egg patterns, Clousers, flesh flies, multicolored marabou muddlers, prawns, sculpins, Flashabou steelhead streamers and articulated rabbit-strip streamers. Keep these flies moving slow and close to the bottom. Dollies tend to feed best during low-light levels on overcast days or during sunrise and sunset. Though I've not done so, I believe the biggest ones would go for a big, black streamer on the darkest of nights.

My best experience with sizeable Dollies came while steelhead fishing the Babine River in British Columbia. The steelhead were just not cooperating so, for variety, I began to dredge the deepest pools with a number 5 sinking head and a size 1/0 multicolored marabou muddler to see what else might take my fly. To my surprise and delight each pool I worked produced hard, positive strikes from exceptionally big Dollies that were wearing their autumn suits of brilliant spawning colors. They fought like demons and I had a feeling that I'd discovered the secret mother load of the Babine. Since that exciting encounter I've had similar Dolly action on several other British Columbia salmon and steelhead rivers. Most likely a lot of British Columbia's and Alaska's steelhead and salmon rivers have big Dollies too, but it's hard to switch over if there's a steelhead to be hooked.

Today, Dolly Varden are widely respected game fish and such a lovely prize and exciting opportunity to catch on flies and lures. I think of them as I do giant brook trout—hard-fighting fish that take your breath away with their beautiful color patterns and sheer brilliance that hang out in some of the most pristine places in the world.

Dolly Varden are very sensitive to over-harvesting, reduced water quality and disturbances to their spawning areas. To help assure their future, support TU's efforts in the Northwest to control excess timbering, mining, river damming and uncontrolled residential and commercial watershed developments. The Dolly is worth the effort.

CLASSIFIEDS

OUTFITTERS & GUIDES

INTERNATIONAL

NEWEST RESORT IN NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO! Lakes, rivers, streams abundant with wild brookies up to 7 pounds. Countless small brookie lakes that have seldom seen anglers. Northern Woods Lodge is remote, yet road accessible with all the amenities. For more information, go to www.northernwoodslodge.com or call (807) 937-6584.

EAST

Maine's upper Androscoggin River. Float trips offered on the premier blue-ribbon fishery in Maine's western mountains. Rainbows, browns and smallmouth bass. Master Guide Sandy MacGregor. www.MountainRanger.com (207) 221-0798. FREE CD-ROM video.

Philadelphia area instructional guiding by a TU life member and licensed Pennsylvania guide. Thirty plus years teaching experience. Fly tying instruction also available. marykuss@cs.com, 610-853-3561

Delaware River fly-club membership, Lordville, N.Y. Ten person limit, 3 cabins, 4 pontoons, 1 raft, trailers, private river access, great guys. $22,900. 973-729-1223.

Exclusive Fly Fishing Club in western N.C. Enjoy over a mile of private trophy trout stream all to yourself! www.hollerfarm.com

MIDWEST

Northern Driftless Area, www.kinnicreek.com 1-877-504-9705

Guided fly-fishing trips in the Driftless Zone in Southeastern Minnesota, Healing Rivers, LLC 507-254-2180 charlie@healingriversllc.com

SOUTH

Arkansas' White River! McKenzie drift boat fly fishing on Beaver and Bull Shoals tailwaters. Scott Branyan, Ozark Fly Flinger, 888-99-FLING; www.flyflinger.com

Best trout fishing in the East. S.Holston/Watauga River trailraces. Hatches year round. Located on the South Holston River E. Tennessee. Wade or float guide trips. Lodging available. South Holston River Fly Shop. www.southholstonriverflyshop.com (423) 878-2822

WEST

Colorado-Gold Medal Waters. Float fish for rainbows and browns with the best guides and equipment. Roaring Fork and Colorado Rivers. Glenwood Springs, Aspen area. Lic. # 1985. (877) 367-7647

Wyoming – The Lodge at Jackson Fork Ranch. Fall fly fishing at the ranch is some of the best of the year. As skis replace fly rods at the airport, the serious anglers have their pick of the best spots to fish. Accepting group trip reservations for 2012. 866-953-1290. www.jacksonfork.com

Wyoming – Tackle the Wyoming Cutt-Slam Four sub-species of native Wyoming cutthroat trout. One beautiful state. One big challenge: Catch all four. It's the exclusive Wyoming Cutt-Slam challenge and you could be one of the few—but growing—anglers to complete it. Go to www.cuttslam.com for the details. Each cutthroat can be found in different waters but a great central lodge base is The Lodge at Jackson Fork Ranch. 866-953-1290. www.jacksonfork.com

SOUTHWEST

IRONHORSE OUTFITTERS. We guide in Arkansas and New Mexico. Wade or float. Great rates! "Art With Attitude" Joepaul Meyers (918) 424-5545 www.ironhorseforge.net

ALASKA

Denali Park, Alaska. Join us on a half or full-day adventure searching for our native Arctic grayling on clear water streams in the Alaska Range. Denali Fly Fishing Guides (907) 768-1127, www.denalifishing.com.

HAWAII

Island of Kauai, free flowing trout streams, tropical paradise come true. Hike, fish from The Executive Lodge in the mountains, or lodging near Beach. Can arrange Deep Sea Fishing, or trout guided tour, Lease, Contributions made to Trout Unlimited Hawaii contact Deane Gonzalez TU ch. # 403 treasurer at 808-395-4607

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continued on next page

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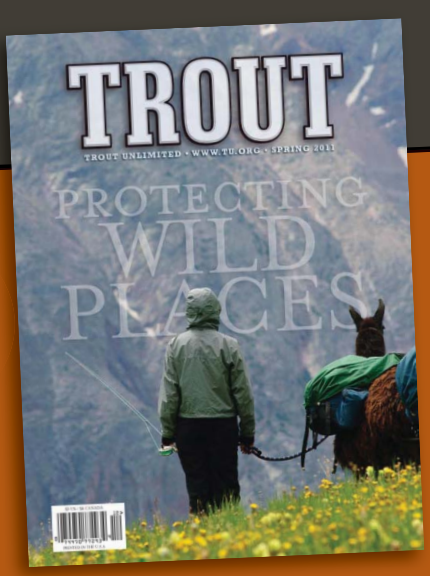

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Sage Manufacturing
Travis Campbell.
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NATIVE FISH

Chinook Salmon

Oncorhynchus tshawytscha

By Dr. Robert Behnke | The Chinook is the least abundant species of Pacific salmon. Its common name is derived from the native Chinook people associated with the Columbia River. The name of the species, *tshawytscha* (*cha-vee-cha*) is based on a mid-18th century manuscript phonetically attempting to translate the common names used by the native people of Kamchatka into German. The Chinook salmon, known more commonly as the king salmon, is the largest or second largest species of the family Salmonidae. The angler-caught record of 97 pounds, 4 ounces exceeds the angler-caught record for taimen, the Siberian form of *Hucho hucho*, of 92 pounds, 8 ounces. A credible Chinook of 126 pounds is attributed to a commercial fishery in Alaska. Chinook salmon have the most variation in life histories (times of spawning runs, times of spawning, duration of juveniles in freshwater and duration of ocean feeding) of Pacific salmon species. When it comes to spawning migration, it is the record holder among salmon with spawning occurring as far as 1,500 to 2,000 miles from the ocean. The commercial fishery on the Columbia River recognized three peaks in annual spawning runs as spring, summer and fall Chinook. (The original spring and summer wild runs were virtually eliminated.) The Sacramento River also has a winter-run Chinook that spawns in the spring and is now listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. Most (70 to 80 percent) of the current Chinook spawning runs in the Columbia and Sacramento rivers are of hatchery origin. Although hatchery propagation played a role in the loss of life history diversity, dams and habitat degradation are the main causes of loss of diversity and declines in abundance of Chinook salmon.

The original range of Chinook salmon in North America extends from the Sacramento River basin in the south to tributary rivers of Kotzebue Sound, Alaska. In the U.S., the Chinook salmon species has eight groups protected under the Endangered Species Act as "Evolutionarily Significant Units."

You Can Help Bring Back the Natives:

TU and its chapters are working aggressively to protect and restore wild populations of Chinook salmon. For more information, go to tu.org.

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