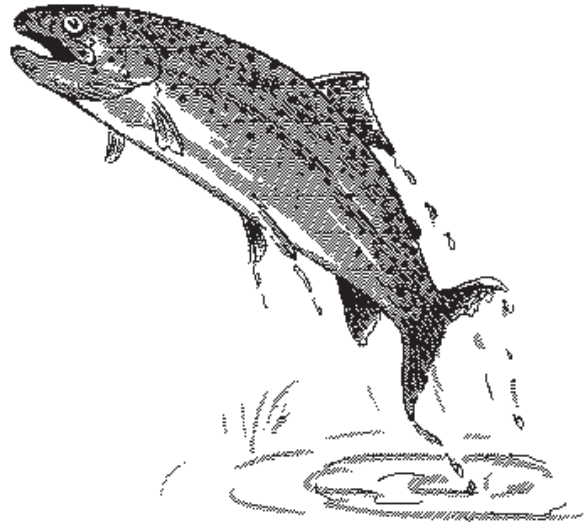


Electric

The Evergreen Trout



November 2004 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 22 No. 11

From The Prez,

It is with great sadness I announce that I will be stepping down as President at the end of this year. My term (or terms) has expired after six and a half years, and it's time for some new leadership to take over. I'm a little tired out after such a long tenure, but will continue an active role with the chapter. **Nominations are open for my spot as well as ALL other board positions.** See additional info inside on the process. I'd really encourage any of you with the least bit of interest to call me to discuss further. I will assist whoever takes over for as long as is needed to insure a smooth transition.

The chapter has come a long way in those years, and you all have much to be proud of. I will miss my role dearly, as I was able to meet so many wonderful folks and participate in such a wide variety of rewarding activities.

Thanks for the great turnout at last month's meeting -- our first time at Beau Jo's! As for this month's business items; first, you all probably know by now about the **John Fielder program on November 13th**, either from the flyer enclosed, or last month's newsletter, or the Denver papers, or our website. **Note that this event will replace our general meeting in November.** Also, **note that we changed the November Board meeting to Wednesday the 17th (to avoid Thanksgiving week)**, but it will still be at the Tuscany Tavern at 6:30p as usual. Please come to the board meeting to learn more about what we're up to.

Second, our annual **Holiday Extravaganza** is slated for **Saturday, December 4th, starting at 5:00p**, and will again be held at **Dick Wheeler's home** in Marshdale.

Directions to Dick's home, as well as RSVP and "pot luck" information can be found on page 4. **Again note that there won't be a general meeting in December.** Also, we're not planning a board meeting in December, unless something earth shattering comes up.

In other news, we received a check for **\$375 from the local "Community Support Initiative" compliments of mortgagee's Michael and Kelly Stark.** We've received similar gifts in the past through this program, organized and run by local lenders **Brent and Tricia Langevine of Capital Lending.** Thanks to all of you!

At the last board meeting, prompted by board member Hal Garwood's suggestions, we've decided to **shift the chapter's direction** towards more "fun" activities for a while. Hopefully, this will spur some additional interest and attendance at chapter functions. These activities could include more one day fishing trips, fly tying/fly fishing instruction at future meetings, "welcome aboard" events for new members, etc. We are open to suggestions. In fact, the Board has decided to ask for your input. **There will be a chapter survey post card (a short one, we promise) -- stamped, addressed, and ready for you to fill out and return! -- in the December newsletter.** Please respond to **this survey**, whether it's to let us know that we're doing fine, or to rake us over the coals. We can take it. **We're even paying the postage!** The bottom line is, let us know if you have any ideas on how to improve any part of our chapter, and/or how you think we might get more of our members out to chapter functions.

Sincerely,

Rich

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

Chapter Elections Coming Soon

As of December 31, 2004, Rich Reynolds' term as chapter president expires. Rich has been president for over six years now, and much has been accomplished on his watch. Rich should be commended for his tireless work. ETU has reached a level of community involvement unseen before he took over. So much has been accomplished that it would be impossible to mention it all here. Rich plans to remain active on the board, and will help his successor with the transition.

We are currently seeking nominations for all chapter Board positions. Ron Belak will chair the Nominating Committee. Elections will be held early in 2005. The current board is especially looking for people to step forward, who perhaps have not been active in the chapter in the past. In other words, we are hoping for some new blood to bring in some fresh ideas. **If you or someone you know might be interested, we'd love to hear from you.** Our general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month, and board meetings are on the 4th Wednesday of the month. (Check the back page of this newsletter for exceptions to these dates due to holidays etc.)

So come to the next general meeting or board meeting, or give a board member a call if you're interested.

Mike Goldblatt

CTU Partners With High Country Angler

CTU has entered into a formal partnership with a new Colorado-based fishing magazine, *High Country Angler*. The publication, which launched earlier this year, is distributed free of charge at fishing shops and sporting good stores throughout the state. In the near future, it will also be mailed directly to all CTU members -- becoming the successor to CTU's newsletter, *Rocky Mountain Streamside*. As with *Streamside*, *High Country Angler* will include conservation news from Colorado Trout Unlimited -- issues so far have included stories about CTU's youth education efforts; about our successful federal lawsuit seeking minimum "bypass flows" below Long Draw Reservoir; about our work to secure EPA listing of the Dolores River and Bear Creek as "impaired" waters, thereby triggering cleanup efforts; and about greenback cutthroat trout recovery. *High Country Angler* also includes features on fishing -- gear, destinations, technique, and more -- which will provide added value for CTU members that receive the publication, and help generate more interest and readership among non-members. Already, more than 20,000 copies are being distributed through shops statewide.

"This is a great opportunity for us to improve our communications to members and anglers-at-large," said CTU President Sharon Lance. "CTU is great at conservation, *High Country Angler* is great at putting together a quality publication, and this partnership makes the best of both of our strengths."

CTU Currents - Fall 2004

Kudos...

...to Mike Goldblatt, Rich Reynolds, and Randy Huiting and family for their help with the newsletter.

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

Ed.

The Great Colorado Rivers Cleanup

Colorado Trout Unlimited and its local chapters throughout the state sponsored the first-ever statewide river cleanup, with work days scheduled from September 18-25, 2004. Nearly **700 volunteers from communities throughout the state** patrolled designated stretches of numerous Colorado rivers, removing trash from the streams and their banks. From aluminum cans to old tires, volunteers found and removed **thousands of pounds of trash** from some of Colorado's finest rivers.

"We hoped to encourage new river cleanups throughout the state by holding well-organized, coordinated events that elevate the health of our waters," said David Nickum, Executive Director of the TU Colorado Council. "We teamed with a great group of partners on existing river cleanup efforts and established some new ones, and we couldn't be more pleased with the results."

CTU chapters hosted river cleanups on the South Platte -- Elevenmile Canyon (Cheyenne Mountain); Arkansas (Collegiate Peaks); Bear Creek (Evergreen); Clear Creek (Cutthroat and West Denver); Boulder Creek (Boulder); the Blue (Gore Range); Fraser (Colorado Headwaters); Uncompaghre (Gunnison Gorge); Gunnison (Gunnison Angling Society); Animas (Five Rivers); Big Thompson (Rocky Mountain Flycasters and Alpine Anglers); and Roaring Fork (Ferdinand Hayden). The Wild Trout and Ferdinand Hayden chapters also partnered with existing local cleanups on the South Platte in Denver, and the Eagle.

Chapter volunteers and non-TU members alike took part in the efforts. "Our hope was to reach beyond our own membership and encourage all Coloradans who care about their local rivers to take part in a cleanup in their area," said Nickum, "and thanks to the great outreach efforts by our chapters and volunteer press work by Bob Bush, we got off to a great start on that."

The 2004 Great Colorado Rivers Cleanup was the first of what **CTU plans to make an annual event**. Another cleanup will take place in fall of 2005 at which CTU hopes to cover even more rivers and communities.

"Clean water is one of Colorado's most valuable natural resources, and its supply is far from guaranteed," said Sharon Lance, CTU President. "We're working hard -- and we need members of every Colorado community to join us -- to keep our rivers clean and healthy."

CTU Currents - Fall 2004

The 'Electric' Evergreen Trout

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

Currently about 25% of our members receive their newsletter this way. Let's see if we can increase that number. Every electronic copy saves the chapter more than \$6/year. **And it's in COLOR!** These savings add up fast, since we "snail mail" nearly 300 copies per month. To take the Electric Evergreen Trout out for a test drive, visit our web site -- www.evergreentrout.org -- and take a look at a past issue. If you like it (and I think you will), sign up!

Tim Haller



EVERGREEN TROUT UNLIMITED
SPECIAL PROGRAM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2004

LOCATION: United Methodist Church of Evergreen



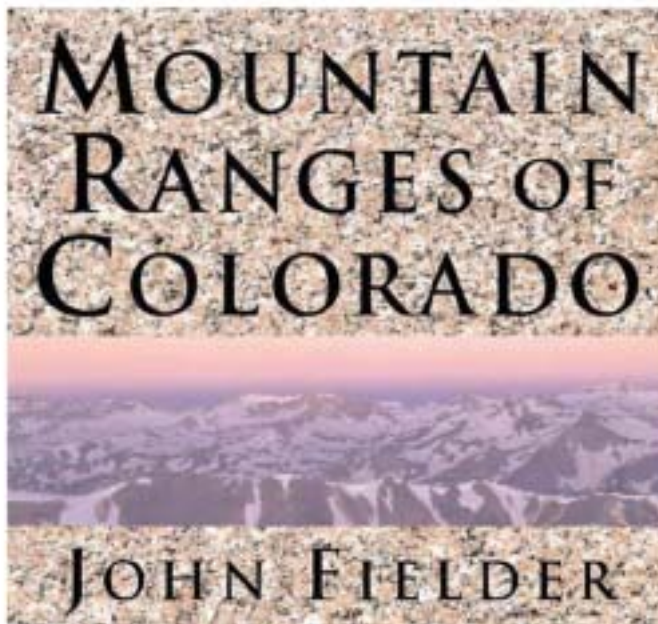
PRESENTATION AT 7:00 P.M.

Admission \$10, Doors open at 6 P.M. DOOR PRIZES & REFRESHMENTS

Visit our web-site at: www.evergreentrout.org

*Featuring Colorado's premier nature photographer,
John Fielder,*

Presenting a night of spectacular photography and stories.



John Fielder has worked tirelessly to promote the protection of Colorado's open space and wild places. His photography has influenced people and legislation, earning him awards from many major conservation groups, including the Sierra Club's Ansel Adams Award. He was an original governor-appointed member of the Board of Great Outdoors Colorado, which uses lottery profits to protect open space and wildlife habitat. He speaks to thousands of people each year to rally support for land-use and environmental issues. John is the photographer of more than 30 exhibit-format and guidebooks, all but four about Colorado.

Join us for this very special evening which will include a book signing at the end of the program.

John's newest book: "Mountain Ranges of Colorado." Fifteen years in the making, these images were created on the most remote and strenuous backpacking excursions of Fielder's career as a nature photographer. For the first time in any publication, this book delineates and celebrates the 28 distinct mountain ranges that define Colorado's Southern Rockies. Made with 65 pounds of large-format camera equipment, this collection of 200 mountain images manifests infinite and primal details not possible with any other camera.

ETU Holiday Extravaganza

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

When: Saturday, December 4, 2004, at 5:00pm

Where: Dick Wheeler's home

Please RSVP to Dick (674-6240) or Rich (674-4861)

ETU will provide the entree and beverages.

If your last name begins with:

- A - H bring a side dish (salad, veggie, etc.)
- I - Q bring a dessert
- R - Z bring an appetizer

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



Headwaters Chapter Hosts Water Forum

Colorado's newest chapter, the Colorado River Headwaters chapter, hosted a Water Forum for Grand County on October 21st. Nearly 70 people crowded into the room at the Grand Elk Ranch Clubhouse in Granby to hear speakers from the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, Denver Water, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, and Grand County.

Don Carlson from Northern spoke about the Windy Gap Firming project, whose Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is due out in February or March of 2005. This project would see the construction of at least one new reservoir in the Granby area and an additional transfer of up to 30,000 acre-feet of water out of the upper Colorado to the Front Range.

Dave Little with Denver Water was also on hand to talk about the Denver Water Moffat Collection System improvements which would take an additional 18,000 acre feet out of the Fraser River and the Williams Fork River. An EIS for that project is expected in early 2006.

Taylor Hawes spoke briefly on the Upper Colorado River (UPCO) discussions that are going on between the West Slope Counties and the Front Range. James Newberry, Grand County Commissioner was on hand as well to address the concerns and needs of Grand County.

The Windy Gap Firming Project could have the greatest impact on Grand County and the Colorado River headwaters. One or two additional reservoirs will be required near Granby, with the possibility of being placed on what is currently private property. A lot of concern was expressed over possible land condemnation and worries that Northern was going to just come in and take over places to which people had saved a lifetime to retire.

Both projects prompted tremendous concern over the possibility of removing another 48,000 acre-feet of water from the upper Colorado Basin, especially in light of the drought. Concerns were heightened after a record summer for low flows and high water temperatures, especially in the Fraser. Several people in the audience were quite upset with what has happened in the Fraser, Colorado, and Blue this summer.

Both Don and Dave expressed sympathy for these concerns. They both stressed that the water being taken from these projects, particularly from the Moffat System, will only be removed in "wet years", when there is enough water for everyone. Both Northern and Denver have promised to work with Grand County and other interests to make sure that whatever option comes out of the EIS process will be acceptable to both sides of the divide. For the most part, the Grand County residents in the room remained skeptical.

The Environmental Impact Statement process will provide two additional times when the public as well as organizations like CTU can weigh in with their concerns. The first and most formative is when the Draft EIS is released for review and comment. This is when we can examine what is proposed, express our concerns and make our opinions known to the regulatory agencies overseeing the process. Chandler Peter with the US Army Corps of Engineers, one of the federal agencies overseeing the EIS process, promised everyone there that their concerns and issues would be taken into account while shaping the scope of the final project.

Both projects will be closely watched, analyzed and commented on by CTU. We will also be holding more meetings to discuss the merits and the concerns raised by the projects. The Fraser and Colorado need all the friends they can get, and your involvement can make a difference! --Ken Neubecker, CTU West Slope Organizer

CTU Currents - Fall 2004

On Genes, Salmon, and Trout

There has been considerable debate about the value of wild vs. hatchery salmon and native vs. introduced trout. The genetic diversity present in wild and native stocks is critical to allow adaptations to local conditions and to provide for future changes in environmental conditions. We know that the hatchery fish contain only a small subset of the genetic diversity present in the parental population. It stands to reason then, that over the long run, cross-breeding may produce less genetically diverse -- and therefore less resilient -- wild fish. That is why so many are concerned by policy changes that would treat hatchery fish equally with wild fish.

For instance, a recent study on the effects of hybridization on westslope cutthroat trout provides some fascinating insights into how natural stocks are harmed by such genetic changes. In the article by Fred Allendorf and colleagues at the University of Montana (*Conservation Biology*, October 2004) first generation hybrids between westslope cutthroat trout and introduced rainbows were found to have reduced fitness. Compared to pure westslope cutthroat, the hybrids were smaller and survived for shorter periods. Ironically, although these hybrids are less fit, they may tend to move longer distances, thus spreading the ill-fitted genes farther and faster. The authors conclude by noting that the rapid influx of rainbow trout genes into westslope populations could result in loss of local adaptations and decrease the probability of survival of westslope cutthroat in the wild. -- Jack Williams, TU's Chief Scientist

NTU Lines to Leaders - November 2004

Salmon Win One

"In a victory for clean water, salmon, and taxpayers, a federal court today ordered the US Army Corps of Engineers, for the second time in as many years, to delay a risky \$2.7 million project to dredge the lower Snake River," according to a National Wildlife Federation press release. The court found that the Corps violated the law by failing to prepare an adequate Environmental Impact Statement for the proposal to dredge the river in the winter of 2004-2005. Conservation and fishing groups say that dredging could harm endangered salmon and steelhead. "Dredging could have devastating impacts on what little salmon habitat remains in the Snake River. There is no such thing as salmon-friendly dredging, and tearing up the riverbed is not recovery," said Glen Spain of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations. GreenLines - 11/3/04

Endangered Species Act A Target

"As Republicans look toward larger majorities in both the House and Senate, as well as continued control of the White House, changes to the Endangered Species Act are becoming a virtual certainty in coming years," said Greenwire, 11/4/04. Republicans in the House and the Senate said legislation changing the Endangered Species Act would be a top priority once Congress convenes. House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo has led the effort to weaken the Endangered Species Act. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman James Inhofe and Senator Mike Crapo, who chairs the Wildlife Subcommittee, are also looking at the Endangered Species Act. Conservationists "have characterized Republican efforts as gutting the act rather than adding the funding and enforcement mechanisms necessary to strengthen it" and also "predict the Bush administration will continue to make rule changes that shift ESA away from command-and-control approaches."

ACTION NOTE: Show your support for a strong Endangered Species Act- sign the Endangered Species Act Legacy Pledge at: <http://www.stopextinction.org/petitions/Petition.cfm?petitionID=8>

GreenLines - 11/5/04

??? What's Happening ???

NOTE: Due to special events, there will be NO general meeting in November or December!

November 2004

13th (Sa) **** ETU Proudly Presents ****

******* John Fielder *******

**Presenting his NEWEST book
Mountain Ranges of Colorado**

**Evergreen Methodist Church
Tickets are \$10 and are available
from any Board member**

Doors open at 6:00p

Program at 7:00p

24th (W) ETU Board Meeting
Tuscany Tavern - 6:30p

December 2004

4th (Sa) ***** ETU Holiday Party *****

Dick Wheeler's home - 5:00p

Please RSVP to Dick or Rich

See page 4 for details

New Members

Please join me in welcoming Thomas Seepers, Mike Seepers, Patrick G Higgins, Pat Roll, Sharon Schutz, Ron Hill, Bill Czaplinsky, Mary Ann Jeffreys, Mike Fulcomer, and Rob & Kim Brozovich to ETU.

If you need help with a membership problem of any kind, call me and I'll do my best to get it straightened out.

Creel count: 353

Randy Huiting

The Evergreen TroutChapter Contacts

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Vice President	JohnEllis <jellis@enbcolorado.com>	674-1017
Treasurer	Steve Murray <murray_sp@msn.com>	670-7942
Secretary	Ron Belak	674-2239
Programs/Membership	Randy Huiting <rhuiting@att.net>	670-5083
Newsletter	Tim Haller <troutguy@speedtrail.net>	674-5426
Youth Ed/Trips	Peggy Linn	674-2239
Special Projects	Hugh Gardner <hgardner@dimensional.com>	697-5876
At Large	Wayne Kosloske	674-4092
At Large	Mike Goldblatt <mike@lamtree.com>	674-7122
At Large	Len Wheaton	674-4243
At Large	Kirk Deeter <kirkdeeter@aol.com>	838-8708
At Large	Gary Rotolo <gdrotolodds@aol.com>	679-1114
At Large	Hal Garwood <hgarwood@earthlink.net>	526-2901
Webmaster	Karen Christopherson <kc@coloradofishing.net>	674-0252
CTU Office	Various nice folks	440-2937

Check us out on the web - www.tu.org, www.cotrout.org,
www.evergreentroutr.org. Contact any of us with questions,
suggestions, or spare time.

Editorial Policy

All submissions to the newsletter must be received by the Editor by the **1st Friday of the month**. Submissions may be on 3 1/2" disc or e-mailed. All items are subject to editing/space limitations. Articles are copyrighted by the author unless otherwise noted. **All phone numbers are Area Code 303 unless otherwise noted.** Call me for additional information.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited

P.O. Box 1974

Evergreen, CO 80437-1974



Working to protect America's streams.

Evergreen Trout Unlimited

1999 Outstanding Chapter Communications Award
2000 Outstanding Youth Education Program Award
2002 Outstanding Chapter Communications Award
2002 Exemplary Chapter Project Award



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