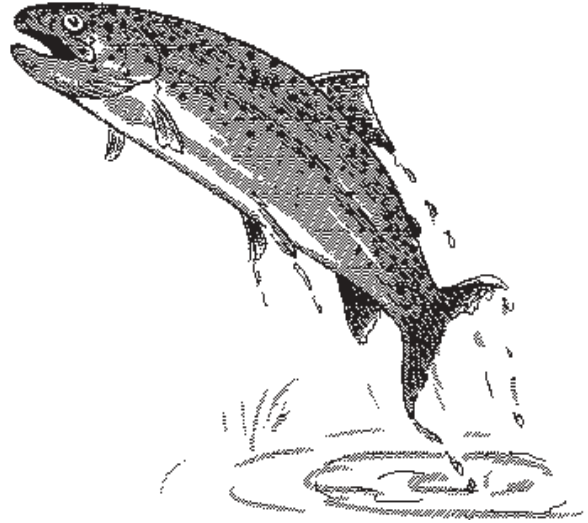


Electric

# The Evergreen Trout



July/August 2005 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 23 No. 8

## President's Drag Free Drift

My column this month is going to be all about our volunteers who come out to our youth events in the summer. They give their time and do not ask anything in return. I see most of them more than once at volunteer events. I hope I do not miss anyone. I probably will not hear that I did because you volunteers are not asking for recognition.

The first event this summer was the Evergreen Park and Recreation District Fishing Camp at the Buchanan Park Recreation Center. I want to thank the ring leaders: **Len Wheaton, John Ellis, and Wayne Kosloske**. Len reports on the happenings in an article later in the newsletter. I also want to thank is **Al Himmelman, Dave Underwood, John Haile, Ford Oliphant, Phil Waters, Troy Fox, Steve Murray, Zeke Houk, Bill Richardson, Sandi Waters, Joan Underwood, Anita Wheaton, and Sherry Ellis**. This was a great success with 21 kids having a great time.

The next event was Camp Comfort. The ring leader for this event was **John Haile**. Thanks goes to John and his volunteers, because some of the usual suspects were fishing at Trappers Lake that weekend. By all reports there were more fish caught at Camp Comfort. John's merry band of men and women were: **Saturday - Paul Regan, Chris Schauder, Tom Lockwood, Tim Stechert, and Susan McCord; and Sunday - Phil Waters, Kent Simon, Zeke Houk, and Abby Houk**.

The third event was the annual Fourth of July Kids Fishing Clinic. **Rich Reynolds and John Ellis** led the charge. We had plenty of kids, plenty of volunteers, but not plenty of fish. Well, that's another story. The kids seemed to have loads of fun. We could not have done it without **Randi Murray, Andrew Murray, Elias Murray, Steve Murray** (gee, I wonder if they are related), **Douglas Fox, Jim Ryan, Kent Simon, Ron Belak, Phil Waters, John Haile, Craig Farthing** (a good friend of mine from Littleton), **Ken Wilbert, Ford Oliphant, Darragh Donnelly and Maren Donnelly** (Ford's granddaughters), **Sandi Garwood, and Tim Haller**.

The last event is the second Camp Comfort. **John Ellis** was again the ring leader. It seems that John's name crops up quite a bit -- do you suppose he enjoys working with kids? The next time you see him, give him a pat on the back. We had 41 kids and their buddies last weekend. **Jim Ryan and his lovely wife, Sharon were there along with Steve Murray and John Ellis on Saturday. On Sunday, Jim and Steve returned with Len Wheaton, Dick Wheeler, Tom Lockwood, and Tim Haller** rounding out the crew for Sunday. I think all the kids caught a fish. Looking into the water off of one of the docks reminded me of Alfred Hitchcock's movie *The Birds*. There were as many trout as I have ever seen in one place except at a hatchery. It was truly amazing. When the kids were doing another activity and we got the rods and reels untangled, we then had time to fish. I want to let you know Steve Murray only caught 10 trout in ten minutes, and that was his slowest ten minutes of the day.

Again I just want to thank all the volunteers -- we could not do this without you. By the way, there are still several events to go before the winter gets here. The first one is led by Len Wheaton up at Mt. Evans Outdoor Lab. Our first fly tying clinic is going to be held September 7th. I know that Len would greatly appreciate some help. Len and company will be doing these clinics throughout the school year. It is fun and rewarding. We are also going to help with the Mt. Evans Outdoor Lab Open House on October 1st. We do this every year and need at least ten volunteers to help with the cooking and serving of the many, many hot dogs. Remember to sign up at the next General Meeting, or if you cannot be there give me a call.

At the next general meeting we are going to have some of our own presenting all there is to know about our own Bear Creek. **John Ellis, Mike Goldblatt, and Hugh Gardner** will be the speakers. We plan to have fun and there will be maps for everyone attending. There will be a demonstration at 6pm on stream tactics right outside Beau Jo's door.

Hal

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/Classes at 6:00pm followed by the program at ~7:30pm. We look forward to seeing **YOU** there!

### Buchanan Park Rec Center Fishing Camp

Saturday June 11, 2005 This event, an all-day exposure to fishing, was planned by **John Ellis, Wayne Kosloske and Len Wheaton** in conference with **Buchanan Recreation Center Manager, Pat Callahan**. It was conceived three months earlier as Evergreen Trout Unlimited's contribution to the Recreational Center's program for making use of the ponds as an educational resource for young people.

The program enlisted 21 boys and girls, ages 7 thru 13 years, and provided them with expert instruction and coaching, use of rods and reels and flies, a picnic lunch on the outdoor patio, and nearly three hours of actual fishing.

There was an indoor assembly in which brief presentations introduced conservation ethics, fish handling techniques, and entomology. Then five tiers demonstrated four ties each and presented each youngster with a set of flies to keep and use.

The entire group hurried to the upper pond where different forms of casting were demonstrated with bait, spinning and fly rods. Then each camper was given a spin rod and reel and casting bubble and "checked out" with their rig without any fishhooks!

After the picnic lunch break the coaches buddied-up with the campers and fished the afternoon away. Many did catch fish.

Please acknowledge the contributions of these ETU members who made this event a fine success by their efforts: **Al Himmelman, John Ellis, Wayne Kosloske, Dave Underwood, John Haile, Ford Oliphant, Hal Garwood, Phil Waters, Troy Fox, Steve Murray, Zeke Houk, Bill Richardson, Sandi Waters, Joan Underwood, Anita Wheaton, and Sherry Ellis!**

Respectfully reported,

**Len Wheaton**

### Help Re-open Cheesman Canyon Access

In 2003 Trout Unlimited and other Front Range organizations logged hundreds of volunteer hours to build a new trail to access the upper end of Cheesman Canyon from Cheesman Reservoir. The new trail was built in cooperation with Denver Water. The goal was to provide privacy for their employee housing while maintaining river access for anglers and hikers. Denver Water owns the land on the upper one third of the canyon and controls access from the upper end. Though the Forest Service has re-opened the burn area to the public the Denver Water Board continues to deny access to the new trail and parking lot completed over a year ago.

Please send a friendly letter to Mr. Chips Barry, manager of Denver Water, asking him to consider allowing access to the upper end of the canyon by way of this new trail. You can direct your letter to: Mr. Chips Barry, Denver Water, 1600 W. 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Denver, CO 80204.

CTU *Currents* - Summer 2005

### Kudos...

...to **Hal Garwood, Kirk Wheaton, and Len Wheaton** for their help with the newsletter.

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

Ed.

### From The (e)Mailbag...

Greetings to all!  
This is an open letter to all members of [Evergreen] Trout Unlimited, and moreover the great men and women I had the pleasure of meeting at Trappers Lake.

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your warm welcome and helpful tips in surviving the trip. Being a "greenhorn" from Florida this was indeed an "adventure", and exactly what the old man promised. I wasn't disappointed.

While the weather and the fishing more or less coincided, your collective good humor, comradre and information made me feel very much at home.

A special thanks to Dave Underwood for sharing his quarters with me, (I had no need to squeeze DOD, "Dear ol' Dad" {aka ETU's own Len Wheaton - Ed.}, out of his coveted Suburban), and a tip of the hat to those who provided the most excellent fair we consumed at mealtime, (Jan, et al). Hey, who made pancakes!?

So to all of you, "Thank You, Thank You."

Kirk Wheaton - The fat, bald kid from Florida

*P.S. I now know what a "woolybugger" is. It's a large static person in a flotation device moving randomly on a body of water.*

### Trouble In River City?

Yeah, we got trouble with a capital T, and that rhymes with P, and that stands for Poaching!

Believe it or not, there are people -- many people by some accounts -- illegally taking fish in Bear Creek. Bait? Yep! I've seen it happen. Stringers of rainbows 'walking' out of O'Fallon Park? It has been reported. I'd venture to say that most of us have seen one or the other. Unfortunately, it always seems to happen when we're "in a hurry to get somewhere". And cell service in Bear Creek Canyon? Don't get me started...

Well, maybe it's time to stop making excuses and help Bear Creek by reporting this kind of activity. It's easier than you think.

Step 1: Don't confront them -- that's not your job. But get as much of the following information as possible: 1) Date and time, 2) Description of violation, 3) Number of shots heard, quantity of fish, etc., 4) Suspect description, 5) Vehicle license #/model/type/color/year. Photos/video are good too.

Step 2: Get this information to Operation Game Thief. Here's how that works: Your e-mail, phone call, or letter starts the process. Info about the poaching incident is taken and you are assigned a code number. You do not have to reveal your name or testify in court. Rewards are paid only if you request a reward prior to any investigation.

To contact Operation Game Thief, phone: 1-877-COLO-OGT (1-877-265-6648); e-mail: [game.thief@state.co.us](mailto:game.thief@state.co.us); Verizon cell: #OGT; or write: Operation Game Thief, Colorado Division of Wildlife, 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216. They'll handle it from there, but don't expect 'film at eleven'. For more information visit <http://wildlife.state.co.us/OGT/>.

You may also contact our CDOW District Wildlife Manager, Dawson Swanson at (303) 291-7227 (Dispatch) or (303) 291-7155 (Voicemail). Dawson's a great guy, but he's got a lot of territory to cover.

The bottom line is this: We didn't spend \$180,000 on habitat for freezers, did we?

Tim Haller

## Report Offers Balanced Water Supply

In early July, a group of conservation interests -- Trout Unlimited, Western Resource Advocates, and the Colorado Environmental Coalition -- issued a joint report entitled *Facing Our Future*, which outlines environmentally-sound strategies for meeting future water needs along Colorado's growing Front Range. The report offers a balanced water solution featuring a strong emphasis on conservation and efficiency, combined with greater sharing of water among users (including between cities and farmers), increased water reuse, and development of new or expanded water projects in a manner that protects communities and the environment.

"During the battle over Referendum A, its supporters asked us what we would support to address Colorado's water needs," explained Melinda Kassen of TU's Colorado Water Project. "The Statewide Water Supply Initiative raised the same questions about meeting future demands. This report provides our answer, a balanced portfolio of water strategies that meet growing needs while protecting our environment."

Foremost among the report's recommendations is greater emphasis on indoor and outdoor water conservation. As more and more homes are retrofit with lower-flow appliances, and as more homeowners become more efficient in their outdoor watering practices (or shift portions of their landscapes to xeric vegetation that can thrive on less water), Front Range communities could collectively save more than 260,000 acre-feet of water each year, or enough to satisfy the yearly water demands of more than two million residents.

The report also calls for greater water-sharing efforts. For example, "interruptible supply" agreements would allow farmers to lease their water to cities during dry periods while continuing to irrigate during normal and wet years. Fallowing arrangements would allow a series of farmers to fallow or rest a portion of their collective acreage each year, on a rotating basis, with the saved water sold to cities. Such water sharing arrangements could provide as much as 200,000 acre-feet of water each year.

Finally, the report calls for new water development in accordance with "smart supply" principles. These principles include using existing supplies efficiently; ensuring broad public involvement in the water planning process; pursuing the least environmentally-damaging options first; and ensuring that new projects address multiple needs, including the instream needs for recreation and the environment. Among the projects identified as potentially smart are conjunctive use of groundwater and surface water in the South Metro area (by integrating supplies of both, supplies can be stretched further); enlargement of Halligan and Seaman Reservoirs in the Poudre watershed; expansion of Denver's Moffat Collection System in the Fraser River; and construction of the Southern Delivery System to Colorado Springs. The report outlines why these projects have potential as "smart supply" -- and what steps still need to be taken to ensure that they are, indeed, built consistent with smart supply principles.

"Each of these projects has issues that must be addressed -- above all, providing adequate mitigation for the rivers and communities they effect, and ensuring that existing water is being used as wisely as possible before further tapping Colorado's already overworked rivers" said CTU Executive Director David Nickum. "But we hope to work with their proponents to address those issues and help them become smart water solutions that work for all of Colorado, on both sides of the Continental Divide."

Copies of *Facing Our Future* are available on CD from the CTU office (call or email your request to 303-440-2937 or [dnickum@tu.org](mailto:dnickum@tu.org)), and a low-resolution file of the report can also be downloaded directly off the CTU website at [www.cotrout.org](http://www.cotrout.org).

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## Eat Conservation Salmon!

{*"Buy the only salmon endorsed by Trout Unlimited - Conservation Salmon". Best of all, shipping is FREE! Check out their web site at [www.conservationssalmon.com](http://www.conservationssalmon.com). - Ed.*}

### About Conservation Salmon

Conservation Salmon is unique in recognizing the importance of sustaining salmon fishermen and salmon habitat. We partner with fishermen-owned cooperatives to ensure the producers receive a fair return and we dedicate a portion of profits to targeted wild salmon habitat preservation and restoration efforts.

Conservation Salmon partners are natural allies in preserving the pristine habitat critical for the continued survival and abundance of wild salmon. Conservation Salmon provides conservation consumers with direct access to the finest, all natural, sustainable food in the world - wild Alaska salmon and seafood.

Think of Conservation Salmon as your dividend for investing in the protection of the forests, lakes, streams and seas needed to sustain and restore wild salmon resources.

When you eat Conservation Salmon, receive it as a gift from our fishermen and Nature. Take a few moments to think of where that fish has been -- of the thousands of miles it has swum to bring ocean nutrients to your table -- then eat it with respect, gratitude and enjoyment.

Thanks to concerned consumers like you - and to Alaska's dedicated fishermen - our wild salmon remain abundant - to be enjoyed and celebrated in good conscience and good cheer.

### Goals of Conservation Salmon

To ensure a fair return to salmon fishermen in keeping with "Fair Trade" principles;

To provide a "percent of profits tithe" to selected conservation groups to assist their ongoing efforts to protect salmon habitat; and

To provide conservation consumers with direct access to the finest, all natural, sustainable food in the world - wild Alaska salmon and seafood.

NTU web site

## Water Quality Battle Brewing

In June, the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission held its "Basic Standards" hearing, at which statewide water quality standards are set. The hearing is held every five years, with basin-specific hearings taking place each year in between. There were many issues debated through the hearing, but none more controversial than proposals for the statewide water temperature standards for coldwater and warmwater aquatic life.

CTU joined with our allies in the West Slope Water Network to get party status in the hearing, where we were represented by retired Division of Wildlife biologist Dr. John Woodling. We presented evidence supporting a coldwater temperature standard for weekly average temperature of between 16 and 17°C (60.8 - 62.6°F) -- levels that echoed recommendations from EPA, National Trout Unlimited, and the Division of Wildlife. Instead, the Commission set a standard of 19.3°C (66.7°F) -- far higher than is needed for healthy trout streams. To make matters worse, the daily standard they adopted was 23.5°C (74.3°F) -- a level that results in mortality for brook and cutthroat trout. Finally, even these inadequate standards were delayed until 2008, leaving Colorado with no effective temperature standard in the interim. The results were extremely disappointing and not supported by the hearing record. CTU will be asking the US Environmental Protection Agency to disapprove the state's standard because of its failure to protect aquatic life under the Clean Water Act. You can help by urging the EPA to reject Colorado's flawed temperature standard. Send your letters to: Robbie Roberts, Regional Administrator, EPA Region 8, 999 Eighteenth St., Suite 300, Denver, CO 80202-2466.

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??? What's Happening ???August 2005

- 17th (W) ETU Chapter Meeting  
6:00p Stream Tactics - Join us before the meeting for demonstrations along Bear Creek near Beau Jo's  
6:30p Dinner and chapter business  
7:00p John Ellis, Mike Goldblatt, and Hugh Gardner - Fishing Bear Creek
- 19th (F) ETU fishing day at Buchanan Ponds  
You **must** sign in at the Rec Center
- 20th (Sa) **NEW!** ETU fishing day at Buchanan Ponds  
You **must** sign in at the Rec Center
- 24th (W) ETU Board Meeting  
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

September 2005

- 21st (W) ETU Chapter Meeting  
6:00p Pre-meeting demo TBA  
6:30p Dinner and chapter business  
7:00p Ken Neubecker (tentative)
- 23rd (F) ETU fishing day at Buchanan Ponds  
and 24th (Sa) You **must** sign in at the Rec Center
- 24th (Sa) CTU 2nd Annual Statewide River Cleanup  
ETU will be holding an event in O'Fallon Park to install/dedicate the kiosk describing our project there, as well as a stream clean-up. More Info next month.
- 28th (W) ETU Board Meeting  
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

## The Evergreen Trout

Chapter Contacts

The Prez	Hal Garwood <hal-etu@earthlink.net>	526-2900
Vice President	Ken Wilbert <k_wilbert@msn.com>	674-5162
Treasurer	Steve Murray <murray_sp@msn.com>	670-7942
Secretary	John Haile <johnhaile@aol.com>	679-3262
Progs/Members	Randy Huiting <rhuiting@att.net>	670-5083
News	Tim Haller <troutguy@speedtrail.net>	674-5426
Trips	Mike Goldblatt <mike@lamtree.com>	674-7122
Special Projects	Hugh Gardner <hgardner@dim.com>	697-5876
Youth Ed	John Ellis <jellis@enbcolorado.com>	674-1017
Youth Ed	Len Wheaton	674-4243
At Large	Wayne Kosloske	674-4092
At large	Rich Reynolds <joanew@aol.com>	674-4861
Webmaster	Karen Christopherson <kc@coloradofishing.net>	674-0252
CTU Office	Various nice folks	440-2937

On the web - [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org); [www.cotrout.org](http://www.cotrout.org); [www.evergreentroutr.org](http://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**

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