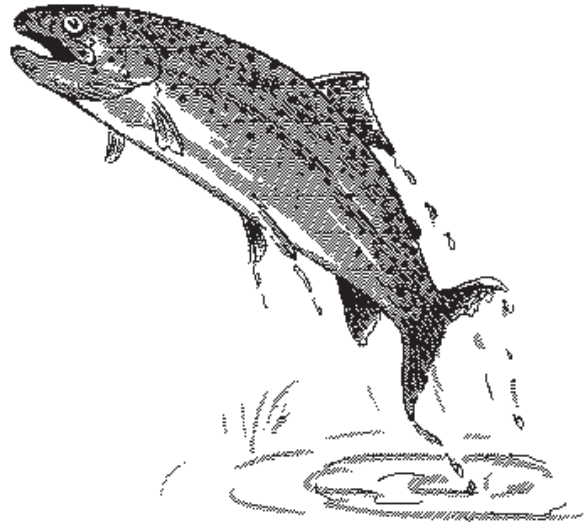


Electric

The Evergreen Trout



October 2005 The Newsletter of the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited Vol. 23 No. 10

President's Drag Free Drift

We had a busy month in September and the first of October. On September 7th and the 20th Len Wheaton and crew helped with the ongoing Mount Evans Outdoor Lab Fly Tying for the Jefferson County 6th Graders. Len Wheaton has a report later in the newsletter.

In our general meeting, our local **Bear Creek Gurus Hugh Gardner and Mike Goldblatt** gave us a first hand look at our local water of Bear Creek. I personally did not know there was that much public water to fish. I also want to thank **Dawson Swanson**, our District Wildlife Manager, for his talk about regulations and the state of affairs on Bear Creek. There were good questions especially about signage. We are going to look into improving the number and location of regulation signs.

The next that happened in September was the dedication of our O'Fallon Park Stream Restoration project. **Rich Reynolds** has a report of the dedication and stream clean-up in this newsletter. While Rich thanks people who helped on the project, we all need to thank him once again for his leadership, without which, this project would have never been completed.

On October 1st a band of happy volunteers showed up at the Mount Evans Outdoor Lab Open House, to cook and help feed the hordes of parents and children taking a first hand look at the facilities. There were ten of us and that made the day much easier. We had **Phil and Sandy Waters** taking care of the money. **Jim Ryan, John Klitske, and Tim Stechert** put the hamburgers together and **Larry Drury** made sure we had plenty of supplies and kept the delicious cookies well stocked. **Steve Murray** and I took turns cooking

the hamburgers. **Randi Murray** came by with son in tow and helped stock the beverages. It was Steve's birthday so Randi brought a delicious pie. We embarrassed Steve with a rowdy Happy Birthday Song. Everybody had a good time. This was a successful ETU event because we had sufficient volunteers and nobody burned out. Thanks to all!

At our next meeting, we will have **Mike McCormick from Wolf Creek Anglers**. He will talk about **Fly Fishing of the Rio Grande**. I know nothing about this water so it should be interesting. We are also going to have fly-tying at 6:00p, before the meeting. I promise there will be somebody tying, even if it has to be me.

Remember we are having the **John Fielder Program** on November 12th at the United Methodist Church of Evergreen. John will present a night of spectacular photography, stories, and his new book -- **Colorado 1870-2000 II**. The doors will open at 6:00p and the program will start at 7:00p. We will also have door prizes, refreshments, and a silent auction. **If you need tickets, contact Rich Reynolds, Steve Murray, John Ellis, Tim Haller, or myself**. We will make sure to get them to you. Please note that this event will take the place of our November General Meeting.

The Annual ETU Holiday Party is set for December 3rd. **Dick Wheeler** will be our host. It is a great time so put it on your calendar. We appreciate Dick letting us visit his home for the holidays once again.

In conclusion, I want to thank all of our volunteers this year. You make this chapter work for our community.

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!

Mount Evans Outdoor Lab Classes

On Wednesday, September 7th, ETU volunteers answered the call from Kendrick Lake Elementary School at the Mount Evans Outdoor Lab. The team consisted of **Phil Waters, Hal Garwood, Jim Wilborn, and myself**. Medical and family excuses kept our volunteer corps limited to three persons this time. The morning was devoted to a fly-tying learning period and then a time to fish. The sixth graders enjoyed fishing with their own fly creations on Jackson Pond at the lab school. Both the teachers and the students were a joy to each of us! We cannot over-emphasize how much fun we had with them.

At the second session on Tuesday, September 20th, the instructors included volunteers **Jim Wilborn, Phil Waters, and Len Wheaton**. The students from Mitchell Elementary School were most enthusiastic for their class size. Another group of wonderful kids made for a great morning.

Hot and rainy weather up at Mount Evans left us a turgid pond and lethargic rainbows each session. A few fish were caught, fussed over, and released after a photo session.

Len Wheaton

{P.S. Len forgot to mention that while the kids were fishing on September 7th, one of the boys hooked a duck. It was fortunate I had my hipers on. The duck and I had a short wrestling match, but the duck finally succumbed to the fishing master. Ha! Ha! He had a wooly bugger in his neck which I easily extracted because we debarbed the hooks. The duck proceeded to fly away with little damage. I turned to the mischievous boy and asked if he did that on purpose. I got an Oh! No! I just laughed it off because when I was his age I probably would have tried the same thing. The lesson here is to debarb your hooks, because that duck could have easily been my ear. Ouch! - Hal}

October Program

The scenery along the Rio Grande is beautiful, but you will be more impressed by the large wild fish feeding on a foray of Salmon flies and other stoneflies, Green Drakes, caddis, smaller mayflies, and hoppers. The Gold Medal Water of this section was subject of a recent article in the Denver Post, "Chasing a perfect drift", literally because of the lack of crowds, and for the long, 'perfect drifts' that your fly can attain while floating this river.

This month we are pleased to welcome -- all the way from South Fork, Colorado -- Mike McCormick, the owner of Wolf Creek Anglers. Mike remembers his first flyfishing lesson when he was 10 years old. His dad and he would spend a week or two each summer fishing the Conejos, the Saguache, the Roaring Fork, the Frying Pan, and various other Colorado fisheries. Mike now carries on the tradition, sharing his knowledge gained over the years. During his program, Mike will also review other waters around South Fork, including the Conejos and San Juan. Don't miss this evening to learn more about a part of Colorado which holds not only extraordinary flyfishing opportunities, but also breathtaking scenery.

Randy Huiting

O'Fallon Park Dedication

Saturday morning, September 24th marked one of the last chapters of ETU's Bear Creek Restoration Project. Thirty-five persons attended including approximately 21 TU folks. We spent the first part of the morning cleaning up the stream within the park, as part of CTU's Statewide River Cleanup. That was followed by a formal dedication of the project and unveiling of the new kiosk. Steve Murray then served refreshments (the usual prime rib and caviar) and t-shirts were presented to the cleanup crew.

Attendees outside ETU included Sharon Lance (CTU President) and her husband Mark, Jim Guthrie (CDOW Fishing is Fun Grant Administrator - among other titles); A J Tripp-Addison (Denver Mountain Parks Superintendent.), Jude O'Connor (DMP Natural Resources), and Scott Bostick (DMP Ranger); Gil Hassinger (CTU Area VP); four officials from TENAS; Mel Nuchols (Evergreen Chamber of Commerce President); and more.

It was great to finally close out this major undertaking, **unofficially, the second largest stream restoration project ever done by TU in Colorado**. All that remains is to wrap up the video and some media stuff. We will continue to monitor/replace shrubs (if needed), water as needed, and then late next fall ('06) we will remove the barrier fencing.

Hats off to all of you who helped make this happen. Special thanks to Troy Thompson (Project Lead), Hugh Gardner (Inspiration, video/media, etc.), Steve Murray (Major paperwork!), and Hal Garwood (metal sign stand). Please don't feel slighted by my singling out these folks -- so many of you contributed financially through our fundraisers and with direct donations and/or help on the work days, but there are just too many to mention here. Hopefully, your reward will be in seeing the changes to Bear Creek.

Thanks to all!!

Rich Reynolds



Rich Reynolds (L) and A J Tripp-Addison (R) show off the new sign in O'Fallon Park
Photo by Karen Christopherson

Kudos...

...to Ron Belak, Peggy Linn, Rich Reynolds, Karen Christopherson, Len Wheaton, and Mike Croft/
www.flyangleronline.com for their help with the newsletter.

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

Ed.

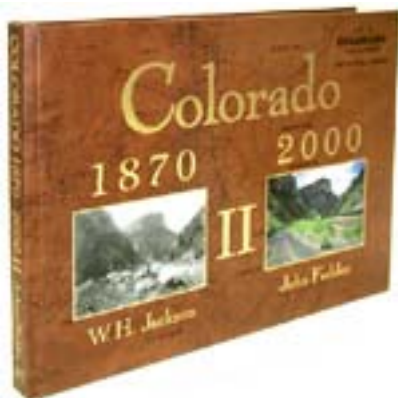
ETU Proudly Presents....John Fielder

On Saturday, November 12th, Evergreen Trout Unlimited will present Colorado's premier nature photographer, **John Fielder**, and an evening of spectacular photography and stories. The program will be held at the **United Methodist Church of Evergreen**, beginning at 7:00pm. Doors will open at 6:00pm, and tickets are available from ETU Board members, and (if there's any left) at the door, for \$10 each. Admission includes the program, refreshments, and entry in the door prize drawing. There will also be a silent auction.

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. His newest book, *Colorado 1870-2000 II*, is a sequel to the best selling *Colorado 1870-2000*. In 1998, acclaimed Colorado nature photographer Fielder drove 25,000 miles and backpacked another 500 in order to stand exactly where his 19th-century counterpart, William Henry Jackson, stood. From 300 different 19th-century Jackson photo locations, Fielder pointed his camera in the same direction as Jackson's, in order to manifest the change in Colorado's landscape over a century in time. Only 156 of these original then-and-now photo pairs made the cut for the first book.

Seven years later, the rest of the project finally sees the light of day in *Colorado 1870-2000 II*. Arguably this portfolio of 108 repeat photographs is more scenic and more colorful than that of the first book, yet just as historical. From Denver to Georgetown and Aspen to Mesa Verde, the change in Colorado's most historic towns and settlements will amaze, if not shock, you. On the other hand, many of Jackson's venues still look the same today...

Join us for this very special evening which will also include books for sale and a book signing. See you there!
Randy Huiting



TU Applauds Open Rivers Initiative

Trout Unlimited (TU) is applauding the Department of Commerce's creation of a grant program designed to remove barriers to fish passage in communities nationwide, calling it "a progressive initiative with phenomenal potential to restore our home waters."

Announced at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation, the Open Rivers Initiative will provide funds through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to help towns tear down obsolete dams and improve the many culverts that block fish attempting to swim upstream.

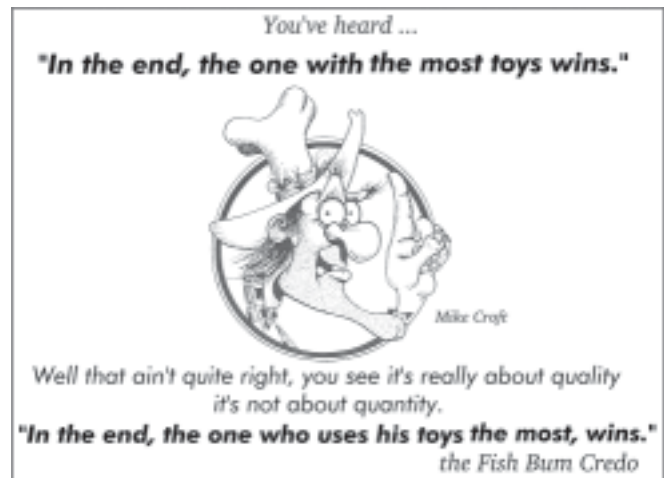
"Given significant, secure and continued funding," said Chris Wood, a TU vice president, "the Open Rivers Initiative could make a much-needed contribution to our nation's overall aquatic health. We have seen the resurgence of life that followed dam removals in waters like Maine's Georges and Wisconsin's Onion Rivers, so we know that such efforts can lead to positive change. And we can't wait to see the improvement in fish populations that will follow a series of small dam removal projects in communities country-wide."

NOAA estimates that there are 2.5 million dams across the country, many less than six feet tall and some up to 200 years old. The Open Rivers Initiative will target dams where community consensus and the dam owners support removal, the dam no longer serves a useful purpose, and removal will have the greatest benefit to anadromous fish like salmon, striped bass and shad.

"One of the beauties of this program is that it can address troubled stocks of native, sea-run fish while improving water quality and boosting local economies, by increasing the numbers of anglers and boaters drawn to an area," Wood said.

The idea for the ORI originated in part from discussions held regarding the current plan for the removal of dams on Maine's Penobscot River. Upon its completion, the Penobscot project stands to make a major contribution to the recovery of the endangered Atlantic salmon, shad and striped bass. "On the Penobscot, we created a replicable model for cooperative river restoration, and in the ORI, we anticipate and welcome the means for replicating the model over and over again," Wood said.

NTU Press Release - August 31, 2005



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??? What's Happening ???

October 2005

- 19th (W) ETU Chapter Meeting
6:00p Pre-meeting demo TBA
6:30p Dinner and chapter business
7:00p Mike McCormick - Wolf Creek Anglers
Fly Fishing the Rio Grande
- 26th (W) ETU Board Meeting
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

November 2005

- 12th (Sa) ETU PROUDLY PRESENTS

John...John...John...

Fielder...Fielder...Fielder...

7:00p at the United Methodist Church of Evergreen
Doors open at 6:00p. **Book Signing!** **Silent Auction!**
\$10 Tickets available from ETU Board members now!

- 16th (w) **NO GENERAL MEETING IN NOVEMBER**
ETU Board Meeting
Beau Jo's - 6:30p

December 2005

- 3rd (Sa) **Annual ETU Holiday Party**
Dick Wheeler has graciously offered his
hospitality again this year. Details next
month. Put it on your calendar NOW!

- 21st (W) **NO GENERAL MEETING IN DECEMBER**
December Board Meeting TBA

New Members

You know who you are. Unfortunately, due to technical difficulties at NTU, we don't. Welcome to the Evergreen Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Hope to meet you soon!

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On the web - www.tu.org; www.cotrout.org; www.evergreentroutrout.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.

The Electric Evergreen Trout

If you or someone you know would like to receive the electronic version of our newsletter (**Anyone, not just TU/ETU members**), send me an e-mail and I'll get you/them on the "E" list! Remember, the electronic version is in **color**, **AND** it saves valuable chapter funds for other uses!!! -Tim

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